

# otaku asia

March 2014  
P 95

FREE  
poster

**Cosmic Bytes**  
COSPLAY SHOP

**INTERVIEW**  
LEAKING HEART  
DRANZER DICE  
AHN PAN

**OTAKU LIFE  
HACKS**  
HOW TO DRAW HAIR  
WIG REVIEWS  
OA PICKS

**PREVIEW**  
-DERE TYPES  
LIGHTNING RETURNS  
SUPER SONICO

**NISEKOI**  
False Love

**PSICOM**  
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ISSN: 2244-6524

GAMER'S ARENA ! GAMER'S ARENA ! GAMER'S ARENA ! GAMER'S ARENA ! GAMER'S ARENA ! GAMER'S ARENA !

HOT ANIME | NAGI NO ASAKURA | WHITE ALBUM | LITTLE BUSTERS REFRAIN | MANGA | KOMOMO  
CONFISERIE | WATASHI GA MOTETE DOUSUNDA | GOOD ENDING | SUKI TTE II NA YO | SOUL  
EATER NOT! | MUSHISHI | REVIEWS | FUTURE CARD BUDDYFIGHT | BUDDY COMPLEX | ONEE-CHAN  
GA KITA | RECENTLY, MY SISTER IS UNUSUAL | NOBUNAGA THE FOOL | NORAGAMI

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The heat is on Otafans! \*smashes a watermelon\* Have you prepared your sunblock and swimsuits yet? Summer is finally here! Vacation is the time to relax and enjoy your freedom. Nyaaaaw \[\*w\*\] Of course, the OA team will still be working hard for you~ What's more enjoyable than spending a good day with all your animes and games, right? For an Otaku mind that is :3

Get your monthly doze of our 'Halo-halo' treat! Have a good scoop of the coolest stuffs from our beloved Cosmic Bytes. Check out what type of a 'Dere' you are. Get into cosplaying with your friend like how our two bishie cosplayers did. Top it all with the trending animes and games in the house. Lightning Returns, anyone? Don't let the heat affect your decision on who to love in our cover feature, Nisekoï. Why not try some cooking lessons by making your very own Taiyaki?

Nee Otafans! Do you want to see your cosplay photos here? Why not send it to us along with your requests ^w^ Don't forget to keep sending us your fanarts, fanmails and shoutouts too~! (~\*w\*)~ Enjoy your summer vacations minna! Make us Free na splash kasaneta~~~

PS. Drink lots of water, help with house chores, stay out of the sun by 10am-3pm (oh it's OA reading time! :3)

-GM Almadel

## Memorable/greatest achievement received

Probably when I met various Japanese personalities like Noiz, Starmarie, Joe Inoue and Guilty Hearts (Miume and Niina 217).

Because it is one of my dreams to meet Japanese celebrities and watch them perform here in the Philippines. I think that it's one of the big chance for them to spread the Japanese Music culture and to know our country.

-PAM OLA

Winning two consecutive years in LU! Live's "best booth" award for the Grand Chase PH category.

Because the prizes on our first win was a sponsored outing with all GCPH Community Managers, so the guild that I was managing back then got the chance to bond with the CMs like GM Mac and GM Cassiel. XD

Our prizes during our second win were only in-game items of choice, so its k.

-NATHANIEL ANGELES



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# INBOX



good day mga otafans, suggest ko na ma-feature nyo ang Chuunibyou demo koi ga Shitai Season 2, Log Horizon, Golden Time, Strike the Blood, Gundam Build Fighters, Noucome, Date A Live 2, Nisekoi, Aikatsu!, Sword Art Online 2 and Happiness Charge PreCure.  
T.Y. OTAKU ASIA

-Roldan Oliveros

wew! thank GOD may naabutan pa ako nito...3 nalang natititra eh ahahaha ^^ well..thank's for the one who is responsible for featuring us on Otaku Asia Anime Magazine ~ thank u! it's a wonderful experience hoho!~

-Crizel Santos



Got Requests? Fanmail to shoutout? Fanart to showoff? We would love to hear from you!

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by Angelynn



konnichiwa Otaku Asia . please feature my latest fanart NORAGAMI for you guys on your next issue. i hope you grant my wish haha thanks

- Von Neo P. Gozos



Konnichiwa minna-san. My friend first introduced me to the magazine months ago and I just want to say thank you! I like that your animes are all updated, it helps me pick shows to watch each season.

Thank you for having all my favorite animes like Blood Lad, Shingeki no Kyojin, Karneval, Neptunia, Madoka, and Danganronpa! I also like the character sections and Japanese culture sections. Also, the friend said that you will feature Blazblue in the next issue. So excited!

Etto... other animes that I hope to see... Arpeggio of the Blue Steel, Kuroko no Basuke, Kokoro Connect, and Tokyo Ravens :3

Arigatou! More power!  
(/OwO)/

-Natsuki Hirao



by Daniel M. Cordez



Byran Cabingan's gundam collection



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# TAGAMOTO

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written by: Levin

NEWS

# セーラーゾンビ

AKB48 Arcade Edition  
アーケード・エディション

Lots of zombie-centered games have spawned since the zombie craze has started.

Now what happens when you see an arcade game where the zombies aren't the usual poor citizens who turned into the undead but rather your idols?

Japanese idol girl group AKB48 will make its debut in the gaming scene this April. The only catch is players will have to shoot them with a handgun as the girls are zombified. Not to worry, though, because you're equipped with a gun that shoots vaccine bullets that can cure the girls from being one of the undead.

Called "Sailor Zombie AKB48 Edition," the pop squad members are dressed in cute sailor outfits in the game, as well as being zombies ready to attack and feast on your brains. Yuko Oshima, Mayu Watanabe, Yuki Kashiwagi, Rina Kawaei, Anna Iriyama, Mako Kojima, and Miki Nishino appear as themselves in a zombified state in the game.

So be ready and get locked and loaded for this arcade game!



## THE IDOLM@STER MOVIE

輝きの向こう側へ!

After being adapted in different media, Idolmaster is finally ready to be on the big screen!

Having been based on the Idolmaster video game series, The Idolmaster Movie: Kagayaki no Mukogawa e! (The IDOLM@STER Movie: To the Glittering Other Side!) hit the Japanese theaters last January 25.

Grossing almost ¥150M in ticket sales during its opening weekend, moviegoers received a booklet with an "episode 0" manga prologue to the film by writer Tatsuya Takahashi and artist Mana.

As revealed by the producer on a promotional video, our idols are at a training camp preparing themselves for their upcoming concert. It was also revealed that there are new girls who will make an appearance in the film: Minako Satake (voiced by Eri Ozeki), Kana Yabuki (Ibuki Kido), Yuri Nano (Miku Ito), Seriko Hakozaiki (Momo Asakura), Anna Mochizuki (Shiina Natsukawa), Shiho Kitazawa (Sora Amamiya), and Nao Yokoyama (Yui Watanabe). Theme songs for the film were also announced; the main theme song for the film will be "M@STERPIECE" while the ending theme will be "Niji-Iro Mirade."

All songs will be performed by the 765PRO ALLSTARS, the thirteen idols of the 765 Production.

# The Elder Scrolls

ONLINE

The Elder Scrolls Online is a massively multiplayer online role-playing game (MMORPG) that was announced in May 2012.

Developed by the team at ZeniMax Online Studios, The Elder Scrolls Online merges the unmatched exploration of rich worlds, something that the franchise is known for with the scale and social aspects of an MMORPG. The game is scheduled for a spring 2014 release, with the PC and Mac release on April 14 and the consoles release on June. Set in the Second Era, in 2E 583, during a period time known as Interregnum, Daedric Prince Molag Bal has taken advantage of the era's known political instability to try and pull all of Tamriel into his realm of Coldharbour.

The game has three major playable factions made up of different races found throughout Tamriel.



Aldmeri Dominion

Led by Queen Ayrenn, this alliance consists of Altmer, Bosmer and Khajit. It controls the Summerset Isles, Elsweyr and Valenwood.



Ebonheart Pact

This alliance, led by Jorunn the Skald-King, consists of Dunmer, Argonians and Nords. It controls Skyrim, Morrowind and Black Marsh.



Daggerfall Covenant

Consists of Orcs, Bretons and Redguards and led by King Emeric. It controls High Rock, Hammerfell and the recently-recognized province of Orsinium.



Several features will be included in the game, such as Mundus which will be used to give characters special abilities; lock picking as an in-game feature; players will be able to own a pet which can be used in combat; and many more.

Like the previous Elder Scrolls games, the gameplay will most likely be nonlinear with lots of quests and random events. The game also has no offline mode, although it was stated that there will be plenty of content designed for players who prefer playing solo.

The Elder Scrolls Online is a great addition to the previous Elder Scrolls titles. With a very wide online multiplayer system, The Elder Scrolls Online is sure to keep the MMORPG heat burning up.





## REQUEST

Requested by: Muimui | Written by: Yani

# ラブ★コン LOVELY★COMPLEX



## Height doesn't Matter!

Risa Koizumi is known to her school of being tall; having a height of 5ft 8 inch. Since she was a child, she was the tallest among her classmates and thus, she was always at the end of the line. Summer is approaching however, she will be taking summer class because she was caught sleeping during the assembly and shouted "my summon monsters have been annihilated!" during her sleep. On the first day of her summer class, she was surprised and dejected to see her classmate Otani Atsushi who will be attending also the summer class.

He is known for his short height which is 5ft and 1 inch. He and Risa would get into arguments because of their height. Their classmates and teachers also teased them as comedy duos. Despite that, they have common interests such as swimming in pools, riding in slides and festivals resulting for them to get along with each other which made them look cute together. Both of them are in the quest of finding and having lovers so they challenged each other. Whoever wins, the loser must buy what the winner wants. Will they find the right person for them?

Lovely Complex is a manga written by Aya Nakahara and published by Shueisha. It has a total of 17 volumes that ran from September 2001 to December 2006. The manga has received the 49th Shogakukan Manga Award for shōjo. In the year 2007, an anime series was released and it was directed by Uda Konosuke, having a total of 24 episodes.

Will Risa and Otani find the right person for them or did they already found that person? Are they just dense to notice and realize it? Let's find out on Lovely Complex!



**Tokyo Bubble Tea** is a great Japanese place to have your lunch, light snack meals, dinner or even when you come with your sesame street pajamas to have your midnight snacks. It is a great place to hangout with your friends and family where our ambiance encourages fun and laughter from menu, service and comfy place all year round!



### Our Story

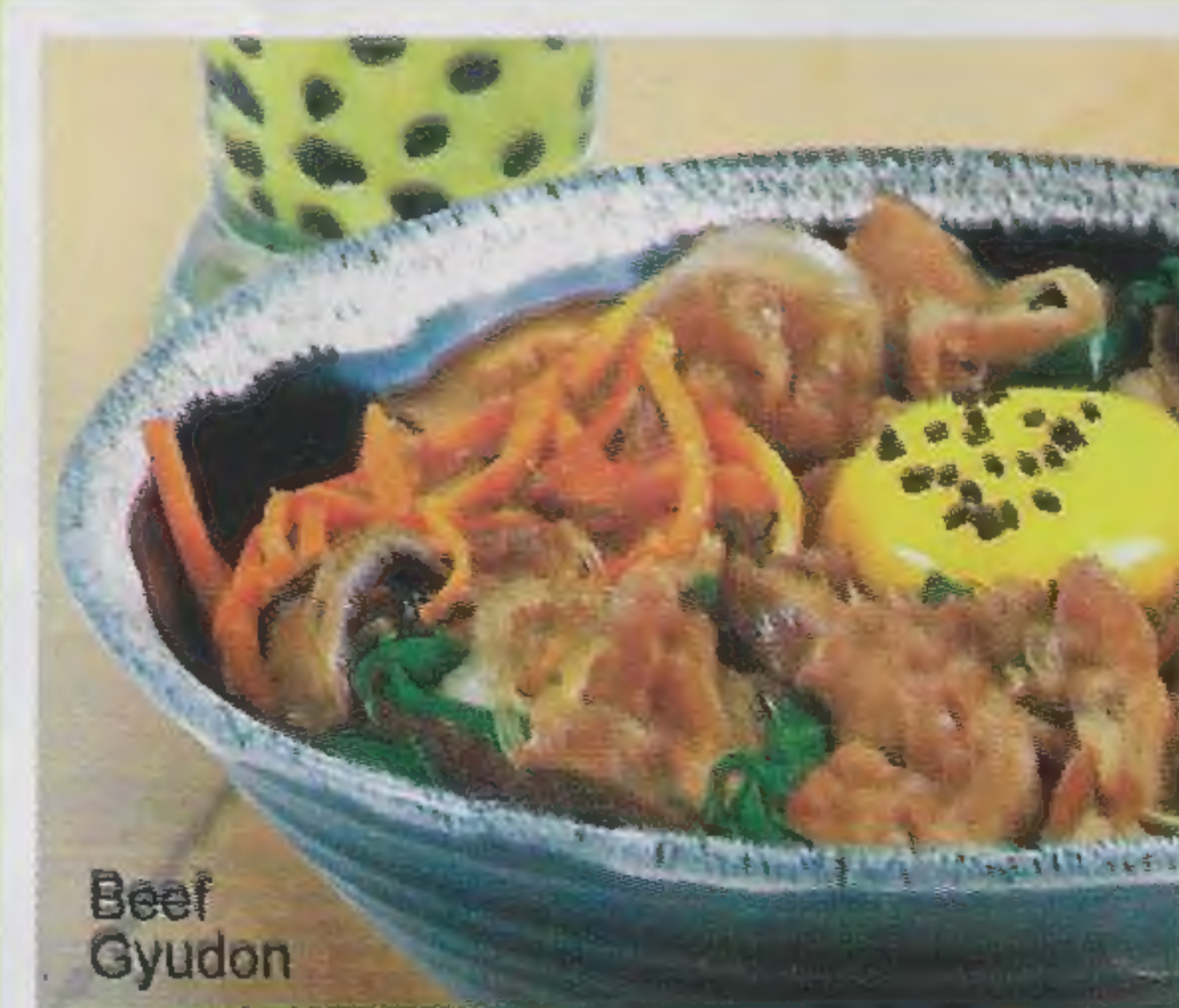
Tokyo Bubble Tea restaurant is a Philippine homegrown concept founded and managed by McWilson Group of Restaurants. It all started year 2007 when McWilson Group of Restaurants owners wished to introduce bubble milk tea drinks in Manila, along with Japanese style ambiance and food. The name bubble tea is derived from the drink popularized around Asia and we used it as our brand name to represent us that we specialize in brewing premium milk tea served with the best bubbles.

### Our Product

We brew our tea everyday to give you the top-quality, fresh, healthy and all natural Tea drinks served with fun soft-chewy bubbles, Tokyo style. In addition, we only offer good, healthy and freshly-cooked food to make sure you get the best out of your favorite Japanese cuisine.



Nippon  
Ebi



Beef  
Gyudon



Due to overwhelming response of our customers, Bubble Tea is planning to expand its business and open more outlets in and outside Metro Manila.

Currently, Bubble Tea has branches in SM Megamall & SM North EDSA-The Block, which started 2007, and in Tomas Morato, Q.C. & Wilson, Greenhills, which started 2010, at The Fort, which started 2011 and now open at Westgate in Alabang, Harborpoint in Subic, Robinsons Place in Bacolod and Marquee Mall in Pampanga.



# A fish that is not fish?!

Ever fancied fish-shaped snacks while watching your favorite anime on a lazy afternoon? Say no more! The tasty treat is now in the Philippines! Yumi's Taiyaki is here to freshly bake your taiyaki.

Taiyaki is one of the most popular snacks in Japan. "Tai" is a type of fish, and "yaki" means to grill or bake. It's a fish-shaped treat that is usually sold at depachikos, fairs and outside temples.

Yumi's Taiyaki is a locally developed shop from the same group as Mochiko. Yumi's Taiyaki started in October 2013 with a pop-up shop in Alabang Town Center and since then have opened a shop in SM North Edsa. Our interview with them tells all:

Otaku Asia

Yumi's Taiyaki

"We felt that taiyaki is like mochi in a sense that there are already people in the country who are somewhat familiar and wish they can enjoy it locally."

Plus, taiyakis are very *kawaii* - even people who don't know about it want to try it because they look cute and yummy!"

This snack is similar to a waffle, minus the unusual shape.

The most common filling is red bean paste.

Other common fillings are custard, chocolate, cheese and sweet potato. Tell us more about your taiyakis, please!

Yumi's Taiyaki offers the following flavors

Classic Custard  
Cheese  
Cream Cheese  
Chocolate Custard  
Strawberry Custard  
Matcha  
Oreo

While taiyakis in Japan are usually filled with red bean paste, we at Yumi's Taiyaki decided to put a more modern twist to them.

We use custards and cheeses as fillings to stand out and make them more appealing to the Filipino palette, since Filipinos like sweeter and richer fillings.

Speaking of flavours, Yumi's Taiyaki has a wide range of flavors!

Seven mouth watering flavors for you to try!

The Otaku Asia team has tried one for every day of the week, it's really really good!

Makes us wonder what you use to make these...

I'm afraid our recipes are a secret but rest assured that we only use really good stuff for our fillings like real milk for the custard, premium green tea and real cream cheese.

Only 30 pesos for one!

We decided to just have one price (P30) for all flavours. While green tea and cream cheese are expensive, we thought that having one price makes things simpler so it's worth doing."

"Right now, we're focusing on fine-tuning our operations because we are franchising soon. So yes, more shops are on the way and as we do with Mochiko, we will have limited edition flavours coming out on a seasonal basis."

Japanese foods are starting to get more and more popular in our country. Just a little more push and we'll have taiyaki stalls in different malls and establishment.

Debate in Japan also rises as to whether the best way to savor a taiyaki is to eat the head first with all the filling or the tail first and save the best for last. How about you? How would you eat your taiyaki? I guess it doesn't matter as long as you enjoy it.



The Japanese schoolgirl is a cultural icon that symbolizes not only the popular culture of its home country but also different Japanese ideals. It is hard to pinpoint the in mysterious and myriad ways behind its powerful appeal that has caused it to explode into the global scene and become a phenomenon recognized almost everywhere. If you are curious how and why, or just plain interested with the enigma that is the Japanese schoolgirl, you must read

# JAPANESE SCHOOLGIRL CONFIDENTIAL

Colourful, entertaining, and educational, Japanese Schoolgirl Confidential is written and compiled by Brian Ashcraft and former Japanese schoolgirl turned wife, Shoko Ueda. This notebook sized tome explores the history of the schoolgirl uniform, its changing styles over the years, its evolution from being a mere educational necessity to a fashion statement, the many trends it has inspired, and the ideals it represents. The book, expectedly and delightfully, also touches on the Japanese schoolgirl's influence on different media such as games, idols, anime and manga, fine arts, and movies. In a more realistic yet equally fascinating view on the subject, the book gives a glimpse of the lives of real-life Japanese girls through interviews with actual Japanese schoolgirls; artists, actresses, fashion experts, and idols; and experts on Japanese popular culture.

Japanese Schoolgirl Confidential celebrates the enduring hype that has captured the hearts of many without stripping it of its mystique through in-depth yet lively detail. With colourful and vivid illustrations and pictures and a lot of cool trivia, Japanese Schoolgirl Confidential will take you to the world ruled by the Japanese Schoolgirl, her threads, and the principles she embodies – and leave you wanting more.

## GIVEAWAY!!

We will be giving away 3 copies of Japanese Schoolgirl Confidential to lucky Otafans nationwide!

Send us an email with your name, address and contact number. ONLY 3 lucky entries will be entertained.

As simple as that!  
E-mail us [otakuasiananimemag@gmail.com](mailto:otakuasiananimemag@gmail.com)

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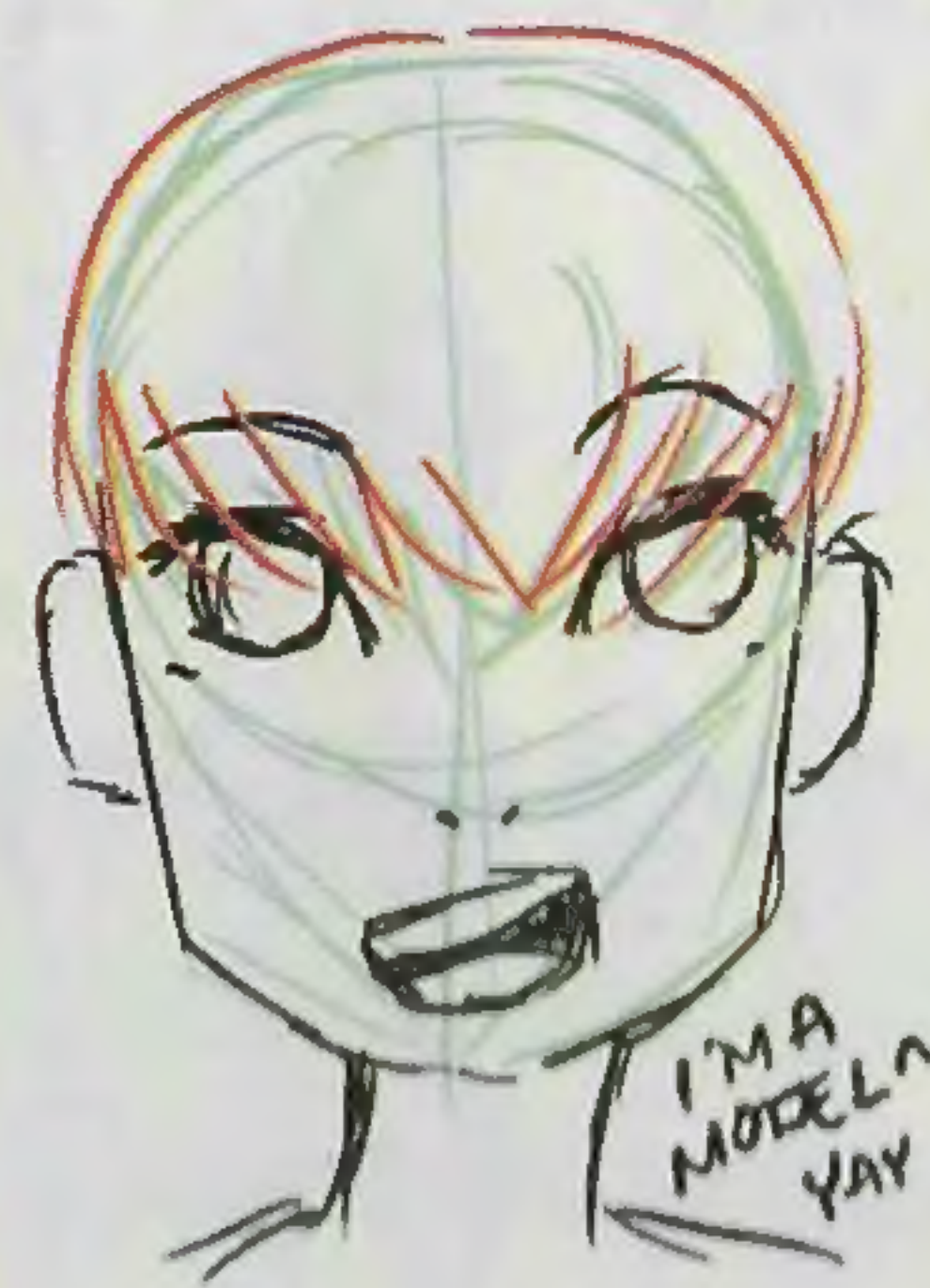
# ART OF OTAKU ANIME HAIR TUTORIAL by Kandy ♡

**The Scalp**  
where it all starts~

When drawing the hair, notice the guideline you've drawn.

Don't draw the hair from that circle because it'll look flat and helmet-like.

See past issue for tutorial on anime faces.



After adding the half-circle remember that the top curve is for the 'body' of the hair.

While the one underneath will be for your front bangs.

Because anime has crazy bangs all the time

**Flow of hair**  
where it all goes~

Bangs can curve down, fall down, or swoop to the side!



Hair could have more than one flow.

The first curve is going to the left and the secondary curve goes the other way

Sometimes, there is also a partition to show the two flows.

The secondary flow doesn't have to be entirely different. Both of the flows goes down



**Back of the hair**  
where it turns around~

Depending on the front, find the starting point of the flow of hair. The starting point of wild spiky hair (Naruto) is in the middle.

Flow the hair as it should look in the front. So that your hair doesn't look flat, add a few strands of hair in the 'body' of the hair.

Girls hair is usually long and guys short.

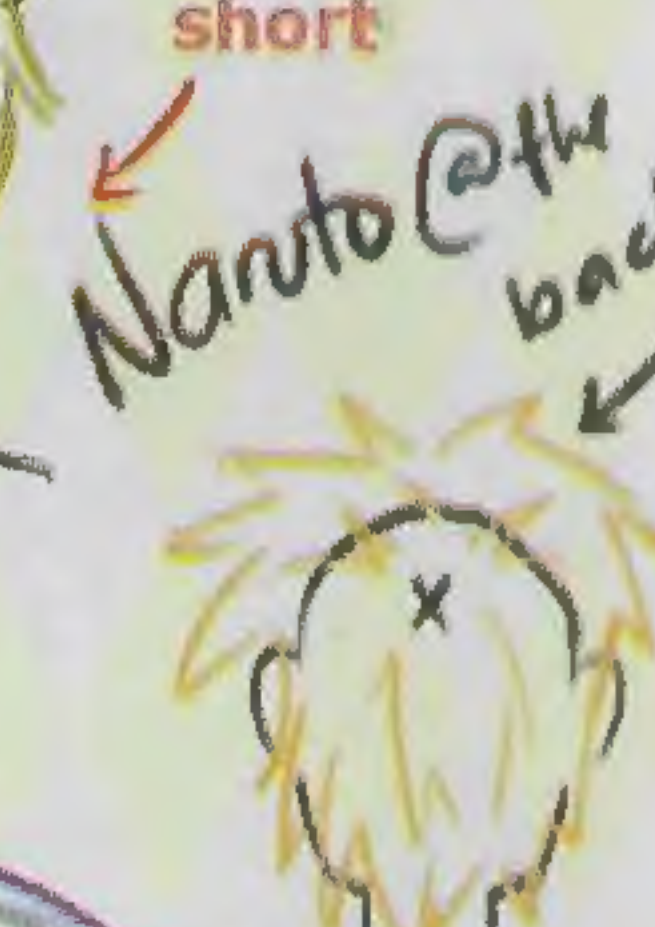
If the front doesn't show back hair, it most likely looks like this  
ex. Jean Kirstein



long



short



**Straight and curly**  
parang shampoo~

Straight hair falls down to the forehead, shoulders or back.

Curly hair can go all ways.

There are different types of waves, curls, locks or braid

Experiment!

\*the bangs and the body could have different styles altogether

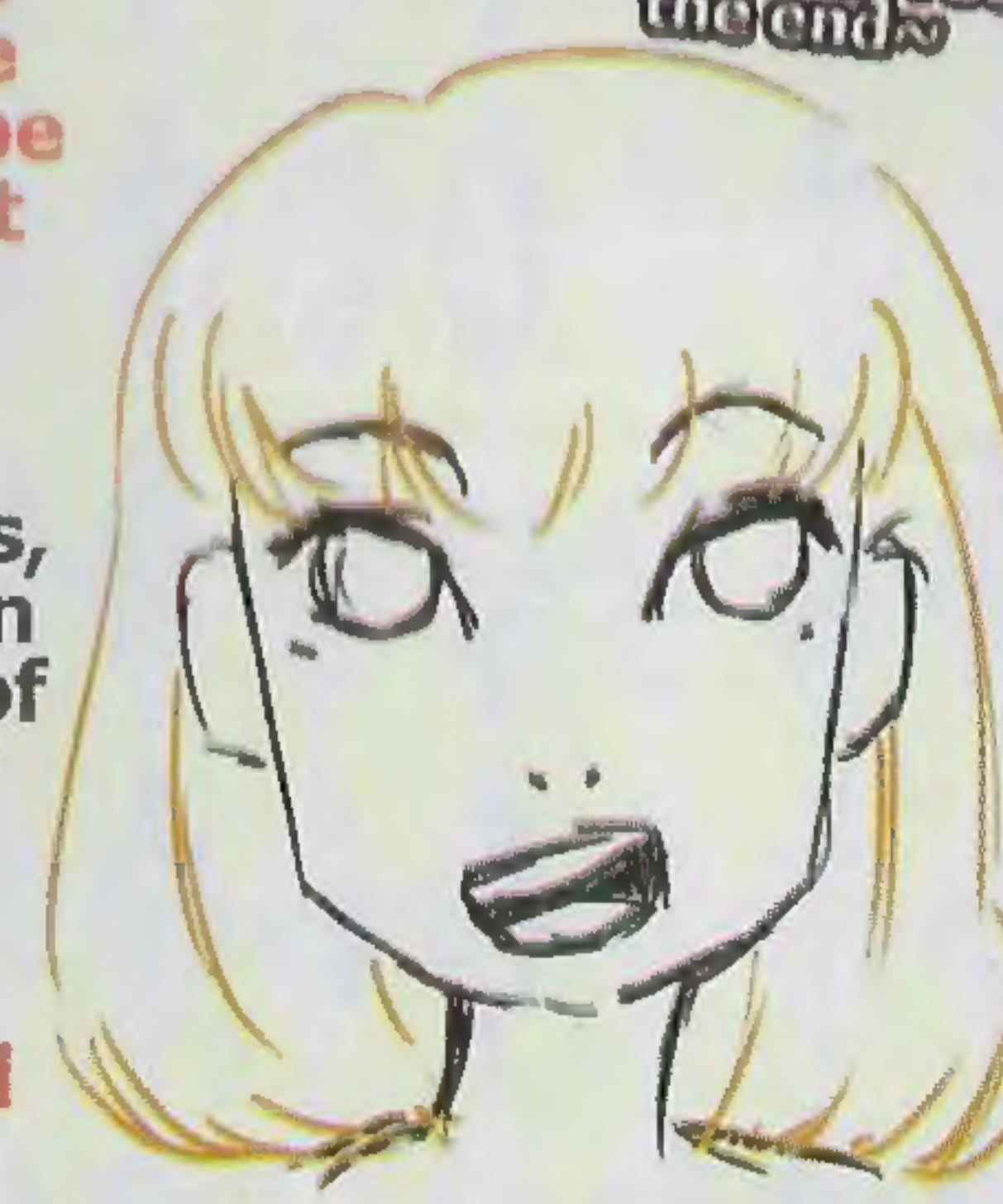
**Wind**  
pa effect-effect~



If your character is facing some wind, don't be afraid to get messy!

Draw hair over his eyes, his face even hair on top of each other!

**BUT!!**  
follow the flow of wind



**Hair Styles**  
the ends~

Anime hair could be realistic, creative or impossible  
**THERE ARE NO LIMITS**

Be wild and find different hair styles through research.

Be inspired by anything  
**Good Luck!**



Add the love for Cosplay and the handsome guys and you've got the

## Dranzer Dice and Leaking Heart

Two boys became well-known for cosplaying characters by pairs, might it be the character vs. self or the hero with his friend. Bestfriends who are always seen participating in competitions and yes, winning most of them. Having the perfect teamwork and both possesses appeal, who wouldn't be inspired by them? Let's get to know them more~!

OA: First of all, where did your cosplay names come from?

LH: From my elementary days, I was thinking of something catchy and unique but with passion and style.

DD: Dranzer means Phoenix from Kai's Beyblade pronounced as "draw-on zaaa", Dice symbolizes my 6 personalities like a dice with 6 faces.

OA: Wow Cool~! Now where and how did you meet each other?

LH: We met on an online game and used to do a lot of pvp and stuff but we didn't know each other personally. When our school hosted a cosplay convention, I invited him and he won up to the finals.

DD: For the finals, I invited him to do a skit with me. We did the Lass vs. KazeAze Lass skit at Marikina Theater, which was also our first duo cosplay.

OA: How long have you been cosplaying as an individual and as a duo

LH: I've been cosplaying for 3 years now, (starting when Dranzer invited me :))

DD: I started early September 2007, so almost 6 years

OA: During competitions, how do you feel everytime you compete with each other?

DD: Oh, we don't compete with each other, we always register in different categories. For example, Best Male for LH then Best NPC for me. We always join as a duo :)

OA: What was the craziest thing you did on stage or during a skit?

DD: The semi Yaoi ending part of our TORCH skit!!

LH: Well, I'd say being as a yaoi. Uke they say.

OA: Among the competitions both of you joined, what was the most memorable skit you have done?

LH: Torch. Our score was 10/10. And the Road to LU! Live where we danced Oppa Gangnam style.

OA: Among the characters you already cosplayed, who are your favorites?

DD: Of course Lass! He's my favorite character in Grandchase, I already cosplayed all his jobs :)

LH: Mine would be Chung (from Elsword)

OA: How do you decide on which characters both of you will cosplay as a duo?

LH: Simple, I take the villain then he takes the hero

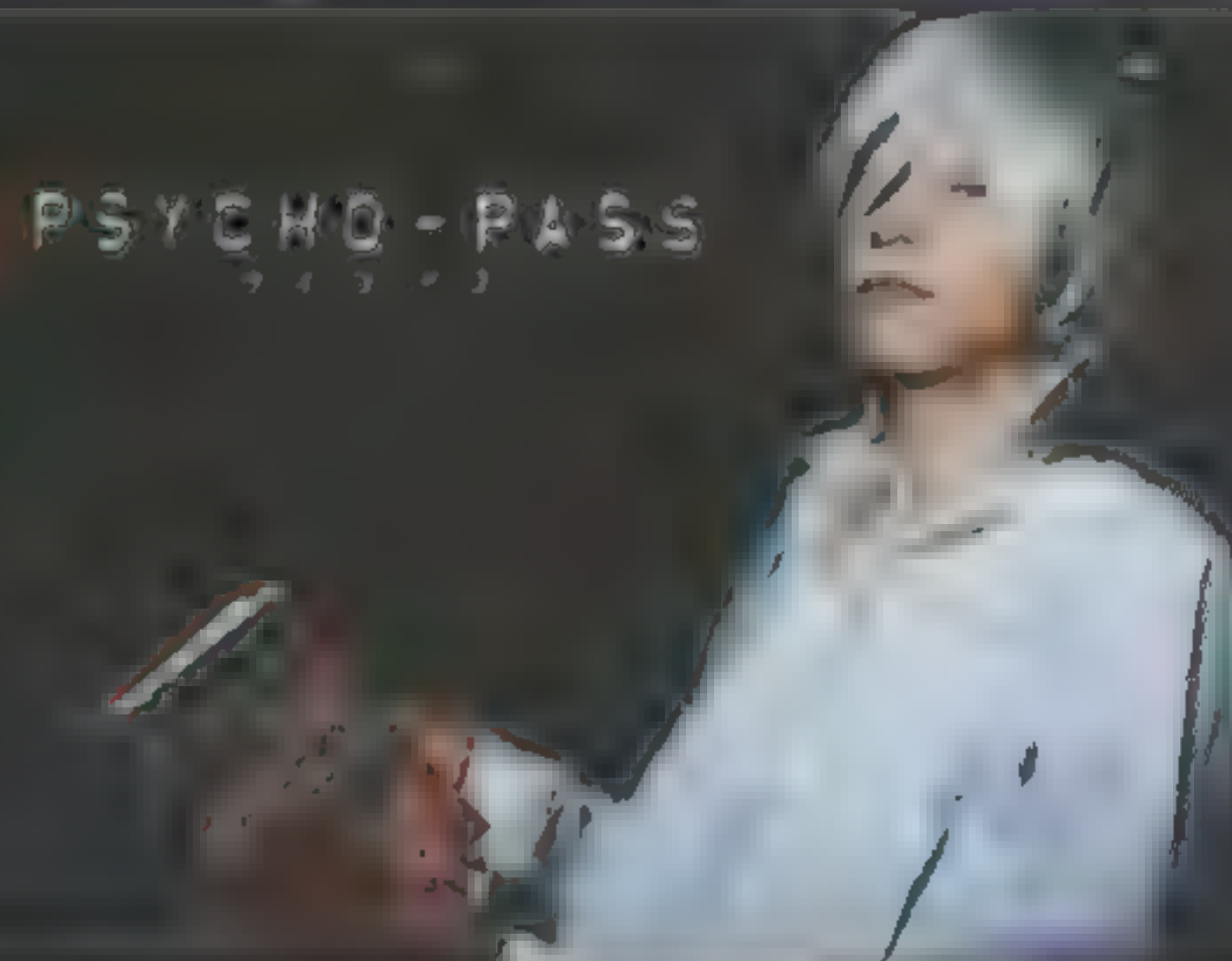


OA: Do you always cosplay as partners/duo or you also have individual cosplays?

DD: I'm used to cosplaying solo characters, then I invite him if ever my character has a cool counterpart/enemy, then we go as a duo :)

"Just like normal people, we do have our individual goals once in a while. For cosplay partners with long history, it is always a must to cosplay as a duo, its like 'give and take' but mostly I argue for what he wants." - Leaking Heart

PSYCHO-PASS



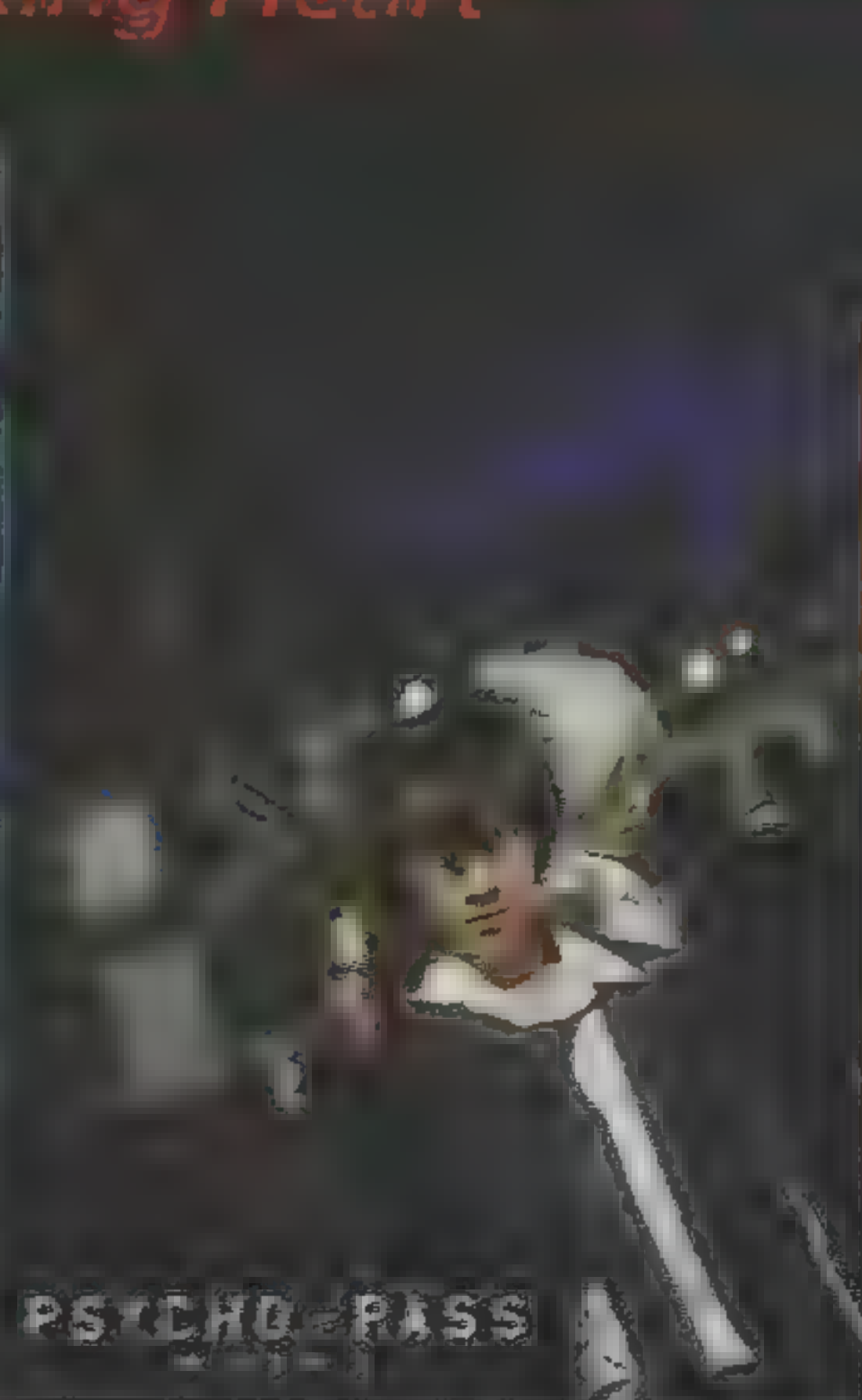
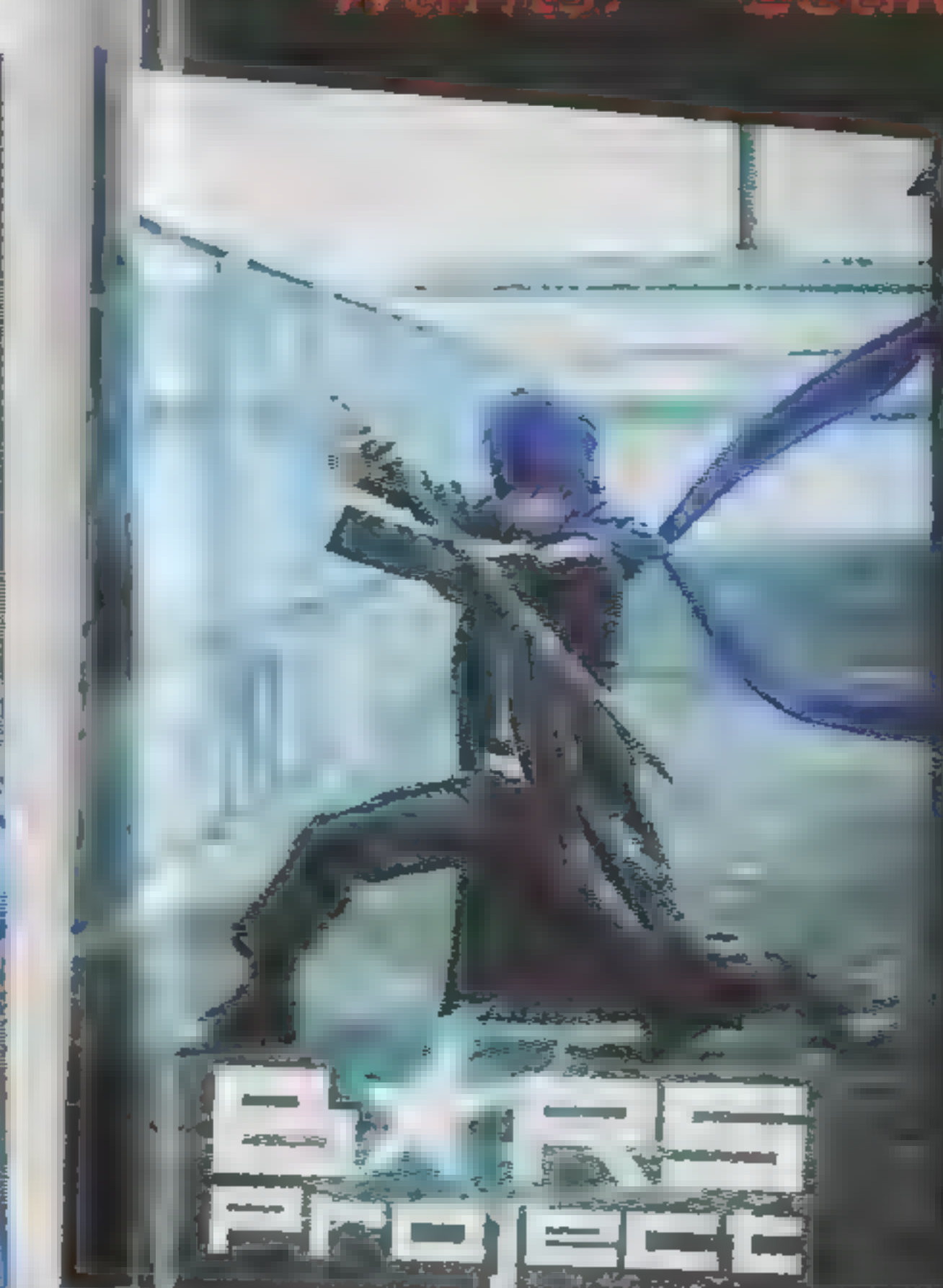
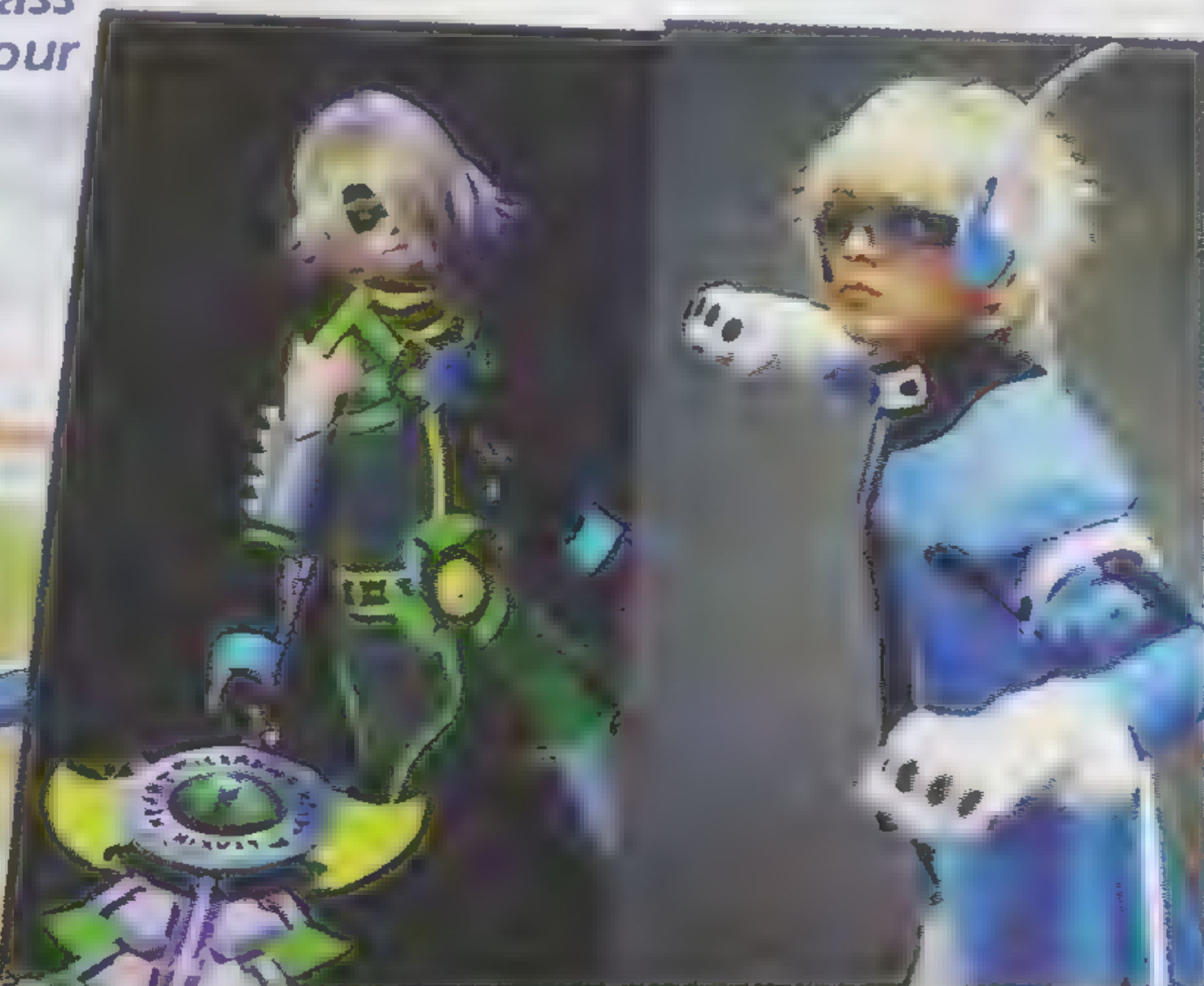
OA: How did you discover cosplay? Did someone influence you to try it?

DD: My highschool friend Rusel invited me last 2007 for my 1st convention.

LH: I am influenced by Dranzer

OA: Do you make your costumes yourselves or have it commissioned?

LH: In the past, we have our costumes commissioned but for this year we will try to make our own costumes.





**LH:** I consider my cosplay with him bad and good. Good with him, bad with fans

We don't have any  
idols because  
**ALL COSPLAYERS  
ARE EQUAL**  
-Dränzer Dice

**DD: Mine was Asuna Yuuki**

DD: Cosplay is like Love. It should always be in your heart. Chakra, Reitsu, Nen, Fruits, Keys, Mana, Elements and all the powers are all in the heart. ^\_^

Check out more [E. Colson's cosplays](#)

www.facebook.com/DeannaCespeyCollection

The Toys R Us logo is prominently displayed at the bottom of the advertisement. It features the words "Toys R Us" in a colorful, stylized font. The letters are outlined in white and filled with various colors: "T" is red, "o" is orange, "y" is green, "s" is red, "R" is blue with a white star, "U" is green, and "s" is red. The logo is set against a dark blue background.The logo for N-Strike Elite is a shield-shaped emblem. At the top, a dark blue banner contains the text "N-STRIKE" in white, stylized, block letters. Below this banner is a shield with a white background and a large, stylized orange and red "N" in the center. At the bottom of the shield, the word "ELITE" is written in white, stylized, block letters on a dark blue background. The entire logo is outlined with a thick, dark blue border.

## RETA LIATOR

# RAMPAGE

## STOCKADE

STRYFE

## ROUGH CUT

# STRONGARM

**Also featuring toys from Transformers, Iron Man 3, Marvel Avengers, Spiderman, Star Wars and a whole lot more!**



1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.


2. The second step is to gather relevant information and data. This can be done through research, consultation with experts, or by analyzing existing data sets.

3. The third step is to develop a plan or strategy to address the problem. This often involves breaking the problem down into smaller, more manageable parts.

4. The fourth step is to implement the plan. This may involve conducting experiments, running simulations, or applying theoretical models to real-world data.

5. The fifth step is to evaluate the results and draw conclusions. This involves comparing the outcomes of the implementation against the original problem and the expected results.

6. The final step is to communicate the findings. This can be done through a report, presentation, or other form of documentation.



Tuesdays  
toybox

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Figure 1. Aerial view of the study area. The area is divided into three main sections: the northern section (top), the central section (middle), and the southern section (bottom). The northern section is characterized by a dense forest of tall trees. The central section is a large, open field with scattered trees and a few small structures. The southern section is a smaller, more densely wooded area. The entire area is surrounded by a fence, and there are some small buildings and structures scattered throughout the landscape.

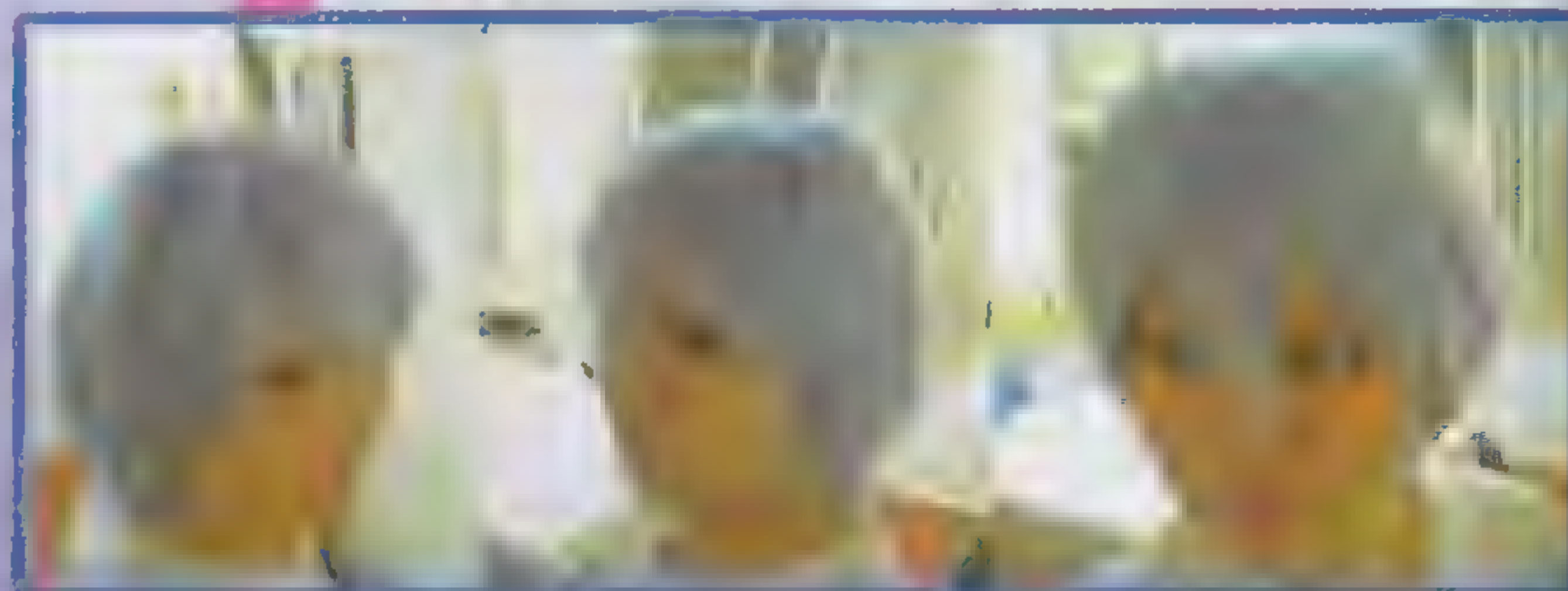


Misaki Cosplay Wigs as this is just a new brand and people might be skeptical with the quality (but I assure you, this is good news).

# WIG REVIEW DESU~ BY MISS TIFFANY SY

## Kuroko Tetsuya Light Blue wig

This wig is really soft and easy to style. Take note that there are a lot of references for Kuroko's hair, so depending on that, you might have to use wax so it wouldn't be too spiky, but generally, it's pre-styled so no need to use wax or to cut it. There are lots of other cosplayers who have bought and used this wig, so you can ask them to attest to how they like this wig as well. This is truly one of Misaki wig's bestsellers.



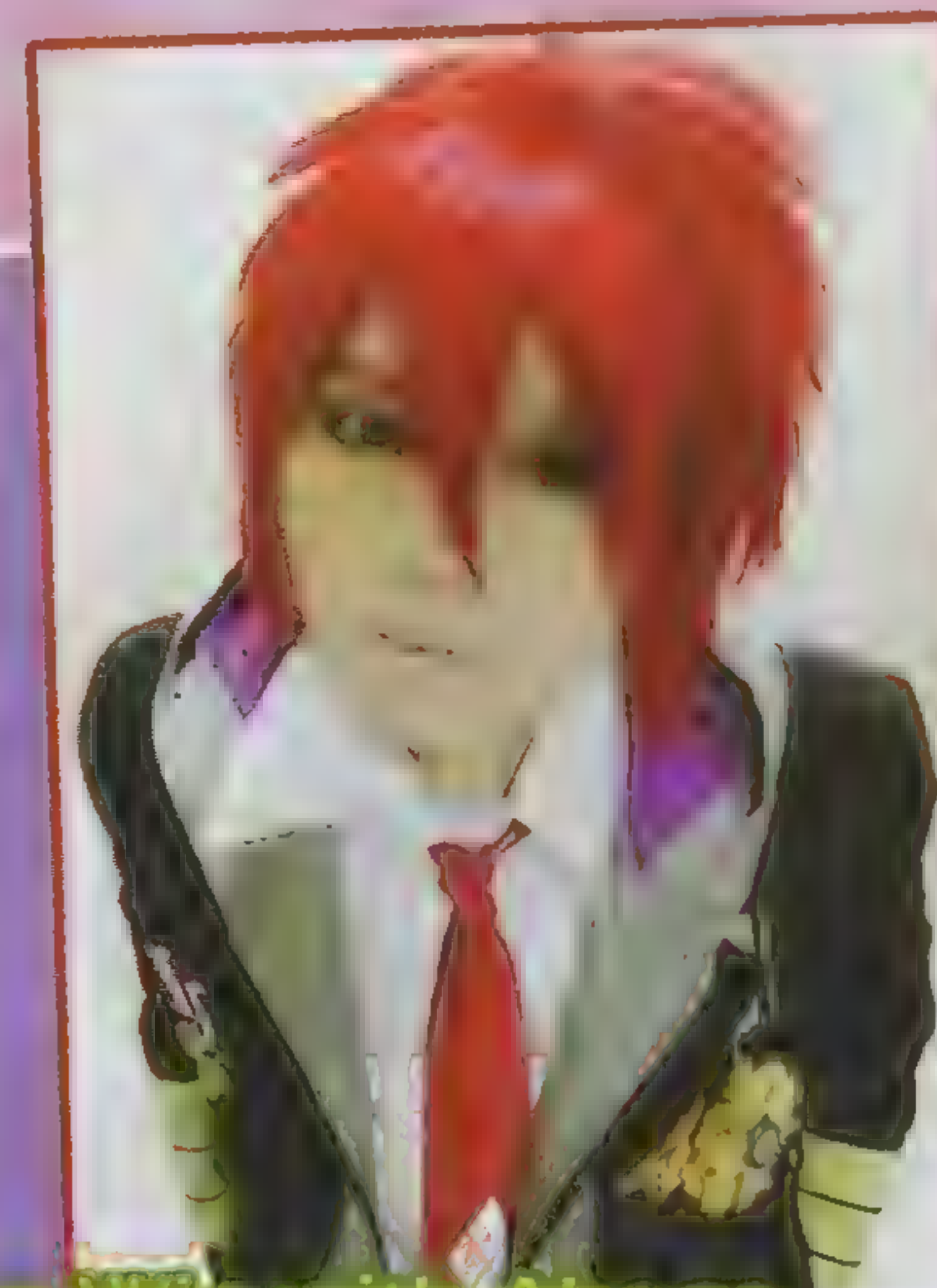
Orange wig  
(Sally's Jan Sally, Yata, Roman and Toralei costrials, As you can see from the picture, this wig works for a wide variety of characters because it's very easily styled! You only just need to part the bangs and the back of the wig, and voila! I didn't need to cut it or use wax either. Its fibers are soft as well. My favorite wig from the batch.)

This wig is originally a Nami wig, but I've used it for my Sally, Yata, Roman and Toralei costrials. As you can see from the picture, this wig works for a wide variety of characters because it's very easily styled! You only just need to part the bangs and the back of the wig, and voila! I didn't need to cut it or use wax either. Its fibers are soft as well. My favorite wig from the batch.



## Red wig (RO wiz, UtaPri Otoya Ittoki, Akaito, Hiroshi Inaba)

I'm using this for my RO wiz, Ittoki and Inaba cosplays. Same with the orange wig, it's very easy to style, even for different characters and even if it's spiky. No need to cut. Although if you need to have more spikes, you need to put only a little wax on the tips.



## Brown Wig with Ahoge (Danganronpa Naegi Makoto)

The fiber thickness and quality is basically the same as what you'd expect from other Misaki wigs. However, since this is a character wig, it can't be used that much for other characters. What I like about this wig is that there is already a portion on top for the ahoge.

I just needed to seal the tips with eyelash glue to keep it pointed together, as the ahoge already stands up on its own (no need to put wax).

I put a little bit of wax on the tips of the rest of the wig to make it more spiky. I didn't need to cut it as the length is already ok as is.



OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW! OVERALL REVIEW!

Don't be fooled with the low price! Overall, the wig does have a good quality, depending on what kind of fibers you are looking for. The fibers are thinner than most brands (like Jiu and Grand Young), but not as thin as those cheap nylon ones. Also, they are very smooth, tangle-free (because they are thin) and easy to comb. There might be some bits falling out (only for the Kuroko wig), but only a few strands, so it's not a problem. It's also lighter and not as heavy as the other brands.

Depending on the character the wig is for, you can use wax to style it. Generally, the length is already fit for the character so I never had the need to cut it.

The color on hand is a bit darker than the pictures, but of course, depending on the lighting when taking photos as well as the characters/references, it can be along in the right range.

Overall, these Misaki wigs are very good, quality-wise (if you're more for soft, smooth fibers than the thick ones), and even more so price wise (only Php790 for a short wig, as compared to the other brands which are in the range of 900-1k). I've ordered around 4 wigs from this brand already and I absolutely love all of them. This is easily a good, trusted, consistent and my favorite brand.



Levi wig P790



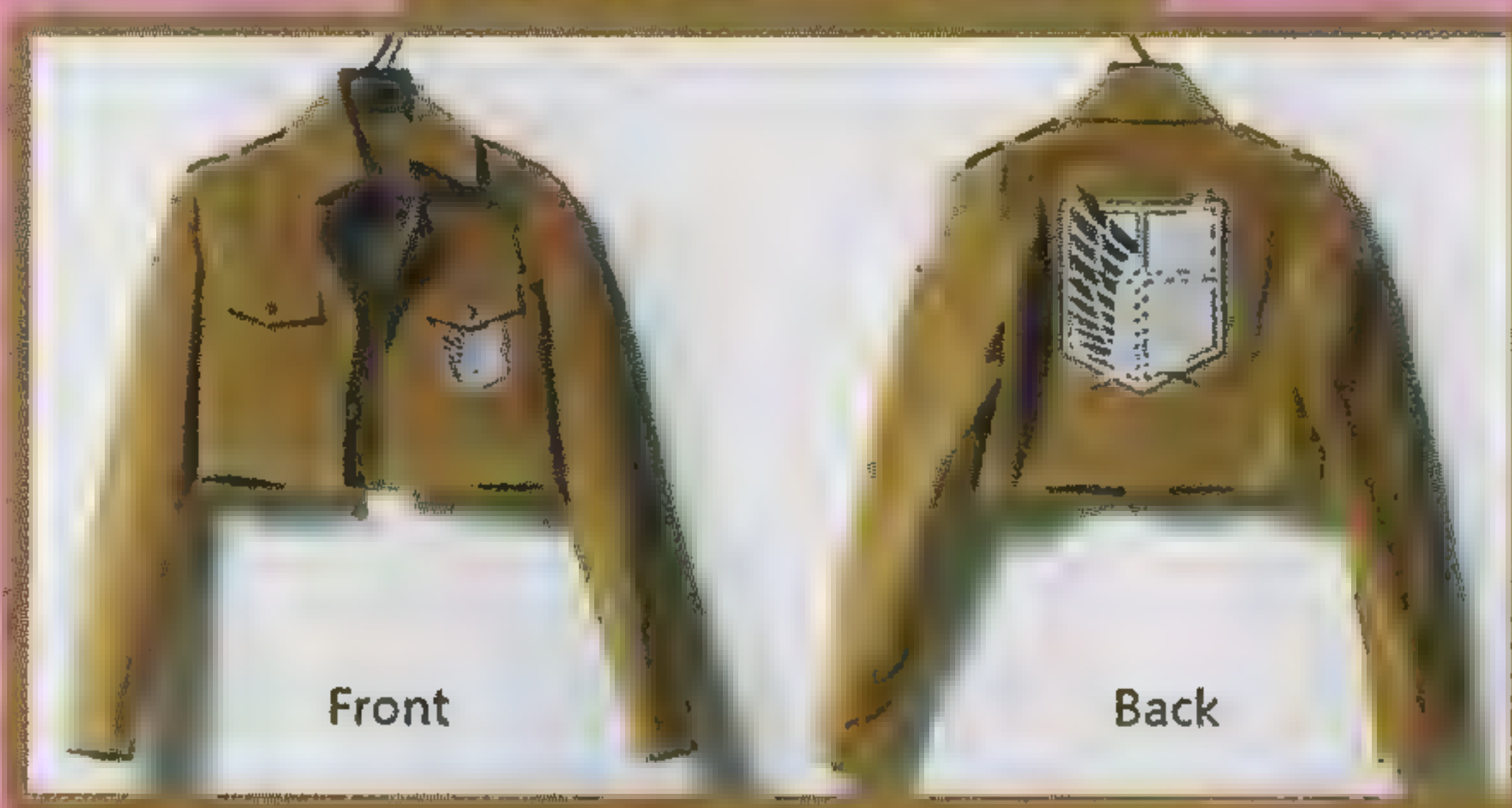
Mina wig P790



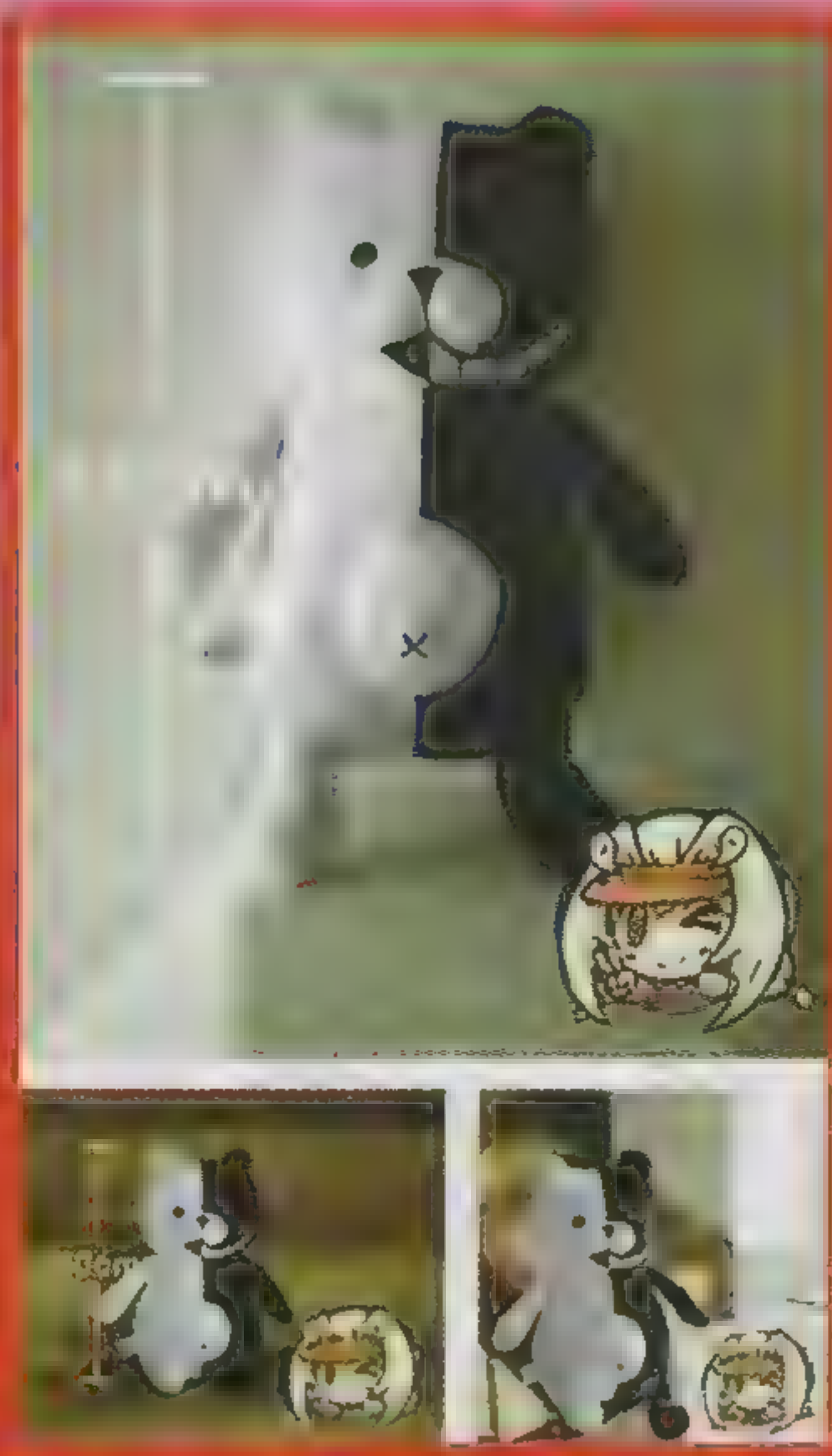
Bag P890



SNK Jacket P1250



Monokuma plushie P600



Junko wig P1590



Elf ears P90



Taiga wig P790



Ryuko wig P900



Diox wig P1000



Lulu wig P1110

Ahri wig P990



Aladdin wig P1050







# OKUN'S CALENDAR

## What's HOT this summer?

**Saturday, March 15**

**Sekai-ichi Hatsukoi: Yokozawa Takafumi no Baai**

New York, Japan, and Hong Kong are all going to see the first of a new series of novels going to be made into anime. The first novel is 'Sekai-ichi Hatsukoi: Yokozawa Takafumi no Baai' by Natsuno Yuu. It's a romance novel about a boy who is a member of a group called 'The Seven Deadly Sins' and a girl who is a member of a group called 'The Seven Deadly Sins'.

**Wednesday, March 26**

**Captain America: The Winter Soldier**

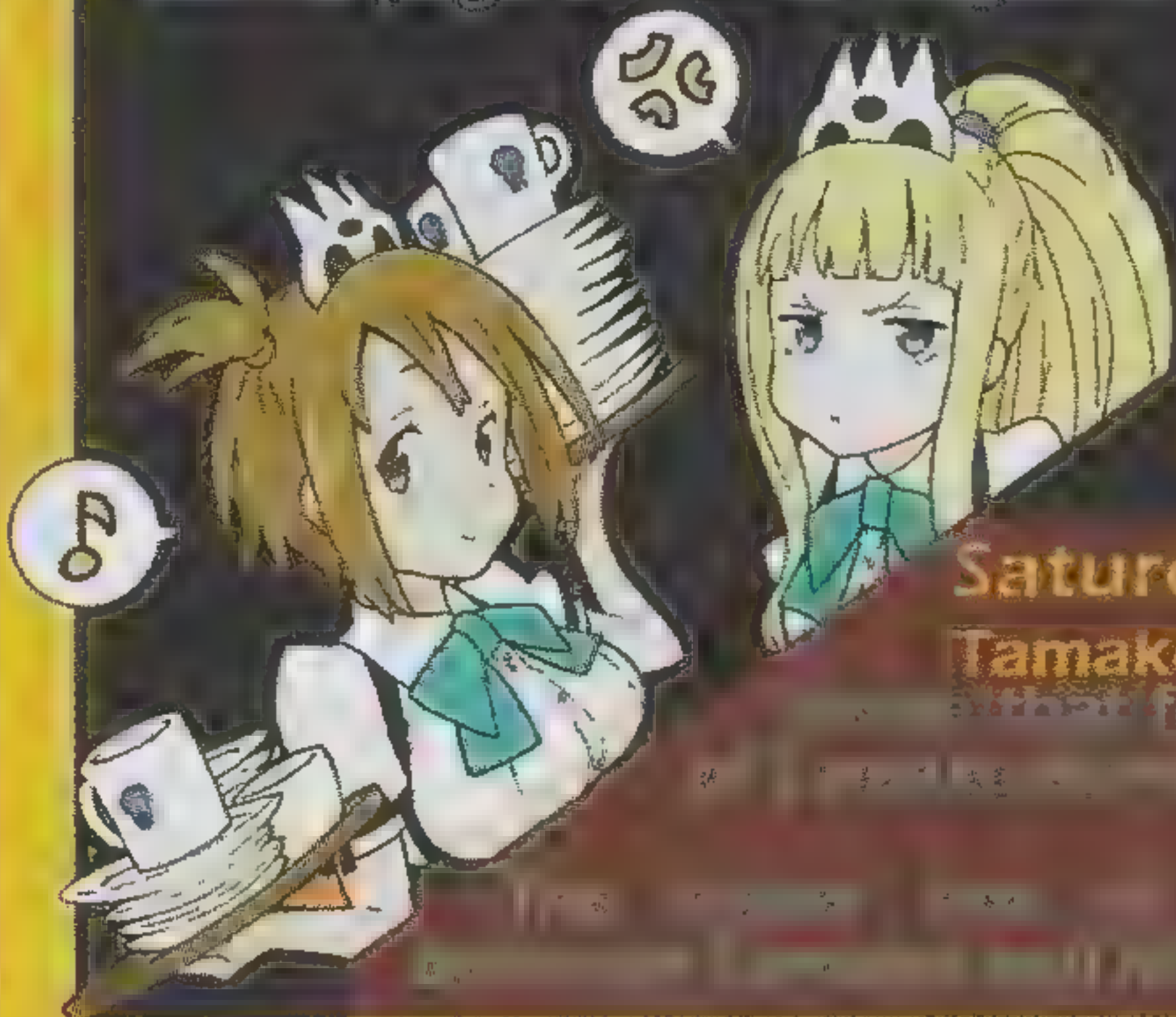
Steve Rogers once again proves that he hasn't lost his touch.

SHIELD creates more heroes as the world creates more enemies. This particular enemy reminds the Captain of a certain old friend.

Friend or foe?

**Soul Eater Not!**

turn to page 58 of this magazine



**Friday, April 4**

**Stardust Crusaders**  
Joutarou Kuujou believes that he is being possessed by an evil spirit and his grandfather comes to his aid.

Sequel to the TV series, adapts the 3rd part of the manga.

**Saturday, April 26**

**Tamako Love Story**

about follows the ev

**Wednesday, April 30**

**The Amazing Spiderman 2**



**Wednesday, June 11**

**How To Train Your Dragon 2**

Five years after the unification of men and dragon, they encounter the mysterious Dragon Rider and engage in battle.

**The Purge 2: Anarchy**

A cat breaks down at the worst of times and the couple finds themselves in the middle of bloodbath.

**Wednesday, May 21**

**X-men: Days of Future Past**

We've seen X-men and X-men: First Class. Now we see them together as Wolverine travels to the past to save the world once again.

**Friday, May 21**

The villain who saved the innocent boy because she wasn't invited to the party must have her revenge.

Angelina Jolie stars as American

**Thursday, May 15**

**Godzilla**

Everyone has an idea of Godzilla.

The 2014 remake is a retelling of the same story in a more modern times.

This is a reimagining of Legendary Pictures and Warner Bros. Pictures.

# COSMIC BYTES

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and MORE~!



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(02) 622-63-91





What kind of a person are you? Are you perhaps a kind of person who is nice and sweet but, you've created an outer facade that is the opposite of your true self? Are you a kind of person that thinks highly of herself/himself or maybe your a kind of person who can express freely your true self among others? Let's find out on...

## What -DERE Type are You?

### DANDERE

A kind of person who acts really shy and quiet among people. This kind of person also avoids having contact with other person as much as possible. They wait for the right person to come into their life. They will start to feel confident when they get used to someone being there to them. Dandere is derived from the word "danmari" meaning silent.

Hinata Hyuuga from the Naruto series.

### HIMEDERE

A kind of person who acts highly like a princess. They want and will do anything to get things in their way. Sometimes, they even use their fortune and fame just to get what they want. They also tend to be a perfectionist. The name himedere is derived from the word "hime" meaning princess.

Weiss Schnee from RWBY.

### YANDERE

A person who acts innocent and cute. They are classified as dangerous because once they love a person a lot; they become possessive and obsessive with that person. They are willing to do anything to be with the person that they love even if they kill another person. Yandere is derived from the word "yanderu" meaning to be ill.

Kotonoha Katsura from School Days anime series.

### YANGIRE

A who acts nice, sweet and friendly but later on, the person's personality changes and becomes violent. This is caused by mental illness but not by love. This word was made up to refer a person as a half-tiger, half-lion.

Rena Ryuugu from Higurashi no naku Koro ni.

### TSUNDERE

Someone who acts harsh and violent on the outside but they are really sweet on the inside. They are also known to be moody. The name Tsundere was derived from the word "tsuntsun" meaning pointed.

Taiga Aisaka from Tora Dora!

### MAYADERE

A kind of person who is considered as the dangerous yandere. They are start as antagonist and then switches sides after falling in love with their enemy (the protagonist).

Saya Tokido from Little Busters.

### KUUDERE

An outside character who acts cool, unemotional, quiet and serious. Once you get to know them, they are really sweet, caring and loving in the inside. Kuudere is derived from the word "kuuru", a romatization cool.

Amu Hinamori from Shugo Chara.

### KAMIDERE

Someone who acts really high, like a god. They think that they know everything and every thing and decision that they made are good. They also tend to think other people as their servants/pawns. The word kamidere is derived from the word "kami" meaning god.

### UNDERE

They agree to everything you say. They always answer with "yeah" & "yep". They do this in order to gain intimacy with the person that they are having conversation with. This also means that may possibly like that person.

Hikari Hinomoto from Toki meki memorial 2.



# Akai Ryuusei & That

ukandanda kinou no asa hayaku ni  
wareta gurasu kakiatsumeru you na  
kore wa ittai nandarou  
kitta yubi kara shitataru shizuku  
bokura wa konna koto shitakatta no kana

Familliar? If yes, then you may be a vocaloid fan. What's vocaloid? It is a singing voice synthesizer produced by Yamaha Corporation, having Hatsune Miku as their most popular character. For this month's J-Idol, we present Akai Ryuusei and That!



**Akai Ryuusei (left) & That (right)**

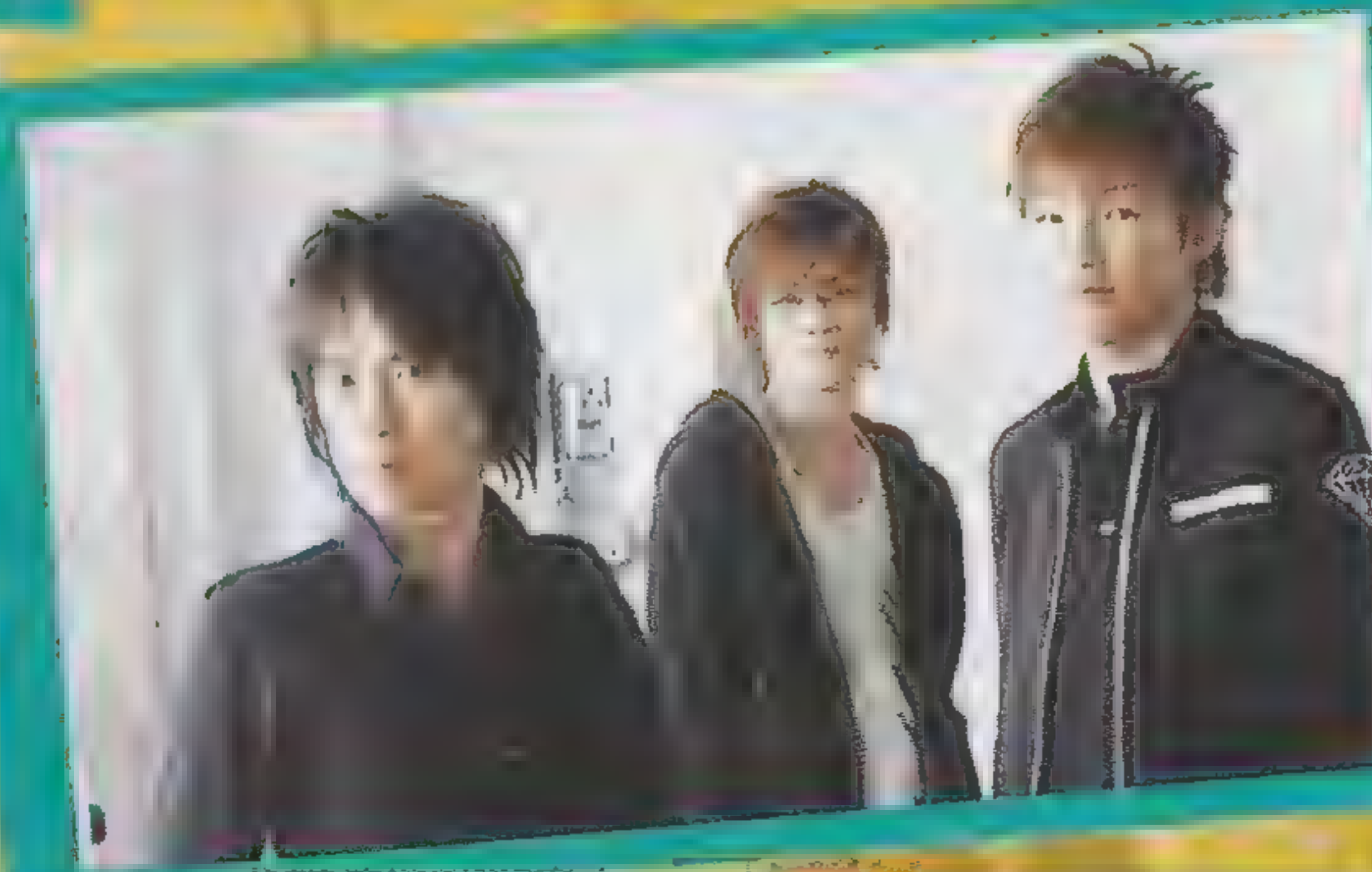
Akai Ryuusei is a member of the group MINT which consists of four members with him as the pianist and leader. He has worked with THAT on several occasions and they even launched an album entitled "VOCAFE 1" a compilation CD of vocaloid songs. He has also collaborated with several known great talents such as H ZETT M and Marasy.



MINT

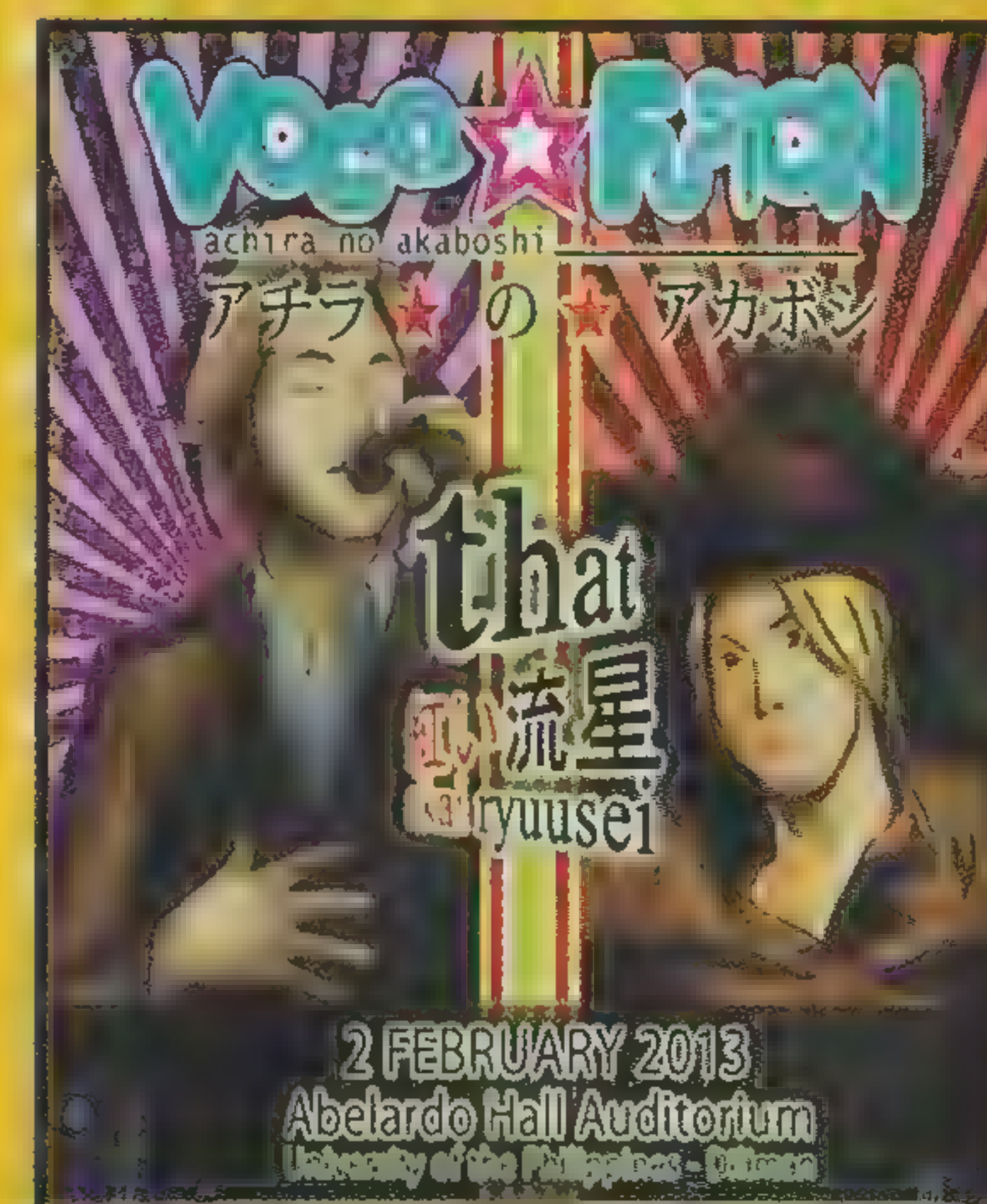
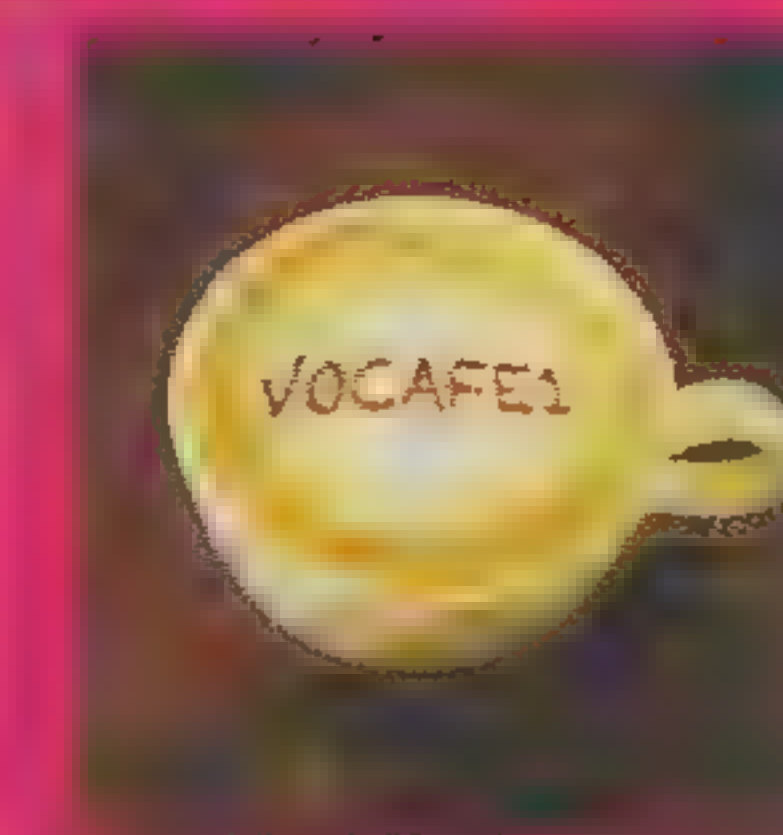
**Aoi Setsuna, Akai Ryuusei, [TEST] & Shobo**

THAT is a member of the 3-nin group ABSORB where he is the guitarist, main vocal and as well as the leader. Real name, Showta Sasahara, was one of the special guests when the first Vocaloid event happened here in the Philippines entitled "VocaFusion" last May 20, 2012 held at SMX Convention Center. He has released 4 VocaFe albums, Cocoro Mix, START, お祭ボーイズ (Boys festival) and 二人の花 (Flower of two people).

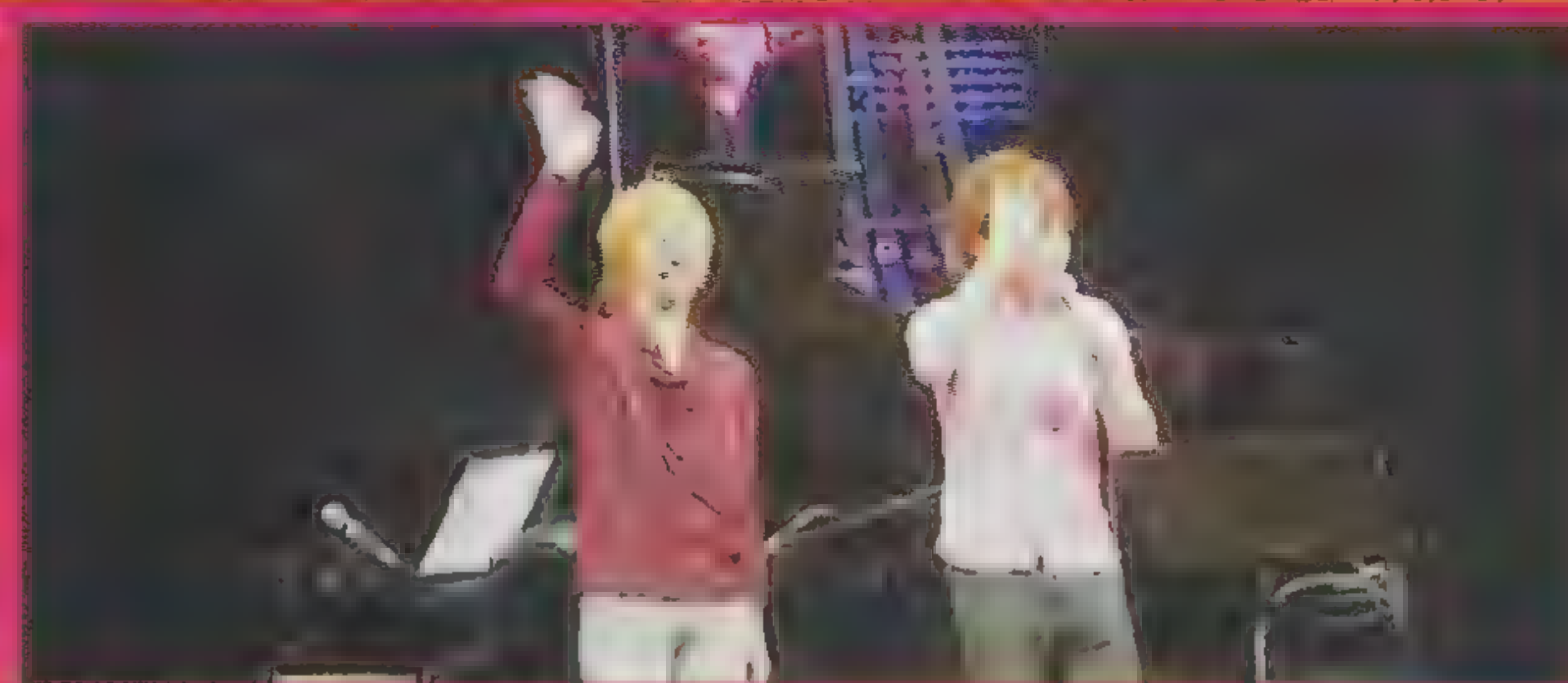


## ABSORB

**Mori Halyosy, Nakamura Hiroshi &  
Sasahara Showta...**



Due to the success of the first Vocafusion event here in the Philippines, a second event was announced entitled VocaFusion 2: Achira no Akaboshi featuring Akai Ryuusei and That. It was held last February 2, 2013 at University of the Philippines Diliman Abelardo Hall Auditorium of the College of Music.



They sang and played many vocaloid songs, including well known ones like Melt and Magnet. They ended the event with the song Just be Friends. After another successful event of another Vocafusion event, fans are waiting for the announcement of the Vocafusion 3 event and hoping that this two will have another duet concert.



Just too far away. All over the place. No  
one's got enough. It's not the way  
you'd like it.  
Just too far away. All over the place.  
Just too far away. All over the place.  
All over the place.

1. **Introduction**  
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**Abstract**—The authors examined the relationship between the frequency of use of the Internet and the frequency of use of the telephone. The results showed that the frequency of use of the Internet was positively related to the frequency of use of the telephone. The results also showed that the frequency of use of the Internet was negatively related to the frequency of use of the telephone. The results suggest that the frequency of use of the Internet is related to the frequency of use of the telephone.

Journal of Management Inquiry / August 2006 30(4)  
 DOI: 10.1177/1056492606288511  
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DOI: 10.1002/eqm2.1200

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$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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李小红	女	30	医生	北京市海淀区	87654321
张大力	男	40	工程师	上海市浦东新区	98765432
刘小芳	女	28	会计	广州市天河区	56789012
陈伟强	男	35	经理	深圳市南山区	45678901
赵小华	女	22	学生	北京市西城区	34567890
孙志强	男	45	教授	天津市和平区	23456789
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徐伟强	男	42	科学家	河南省郑州市	67890123
黄小华	女	29	作家	湖北省武汉市	56789012
孙志强	男	36	画家	湖南省长沙市	45678901
周小丽	女	21	歌手	四川省成都市	34567890
吴大伟	男	48	企业家	贵州省贵阳市	23456789
郑小娟	女	31	舞蹈家	云南省昆明市	12345678
冯志强	男	26	运动员	陕西省西安市	01234567
朱小芳	女	39	教授	甘肃省兰州市	90123456
徐伟强	男	44	工程师	青海省西宁市	89012345
黄小华	女	23	学生	宁夏回族自治区银川市	78901234
孙志强	男	37	医生	新疆维吾尔自治区乌鲁木齐市	67890123
周小丽	女	20	歌手	内蒙古自治区呼和浩特市	56789012
吴大伟	男	49	企业家	广西壮族自治区南宁市	45678901
郑小娟	女	32	舞蹈家	海南省海口市	34567890
冯志强	男	25	运动员	广东省广州市	23456789
朱小芳	女	40	教授	广东省深圳市	12345678
徐伟强	男	43	工程师	广东省深圳市	01234567
黄小华	女	22	学生	广东省深圳市	90123456
孙志强	男	34	医生	广东省深圳市	89012345
周小丽	女	21	歌手	广东省深圳市	78901234
吴大伟	男	47	企业家	广东省深圳市	67890123
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朱小芳	女	38	教授	广东省深圳市	34567890
徐伟强	男	41	工程师	广东省深圳市	23456789
黄小华	女	20	学生	广东省深圳市	12345678
孙志强	男	35	医生	广东省深圳市	01234567
周小丽	女	19	歌手	广东省深圳市	90123456
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黄小华	女	18	学生	广东省深圳市	34567890
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周小丽	女	17	歌手	广东省深圳市	12345678
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冯志强	男	22	运动员	广东省深圳市	89012345
朱小芳	女	36	教授	广东省深圳市	78901234
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孙志强	男	32	医生	广东省深圳市	45678901
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徐伟强	男	38	工程师	广东省深圳市	89012345
黄小华	女	14	学生	广东省深圳市	78901234
孙志强	男	31	医生	广东省深圳市	67890123
周小丽	女	13	歌手	广东省深圳市	56789012
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朱小芳	女	34	教授		

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## CHARACTER BIO

# SUPER SONICO

Sonico is a university student who works part-time as an idol/model for publishing companies and she also help out in her grand mother's shop. Aside from taking baths, she adores cats and houses and takes care of plenty of felines. Sonico is also a member of the band First Astronomical Velocity along with Fujimi Suzu and Watanuki Fuuri.

Nitroplus provided Sonico her very first game debut as a visual novel game for the PC called SoniComi where the player acts as Sonico's cameraman for her modeling career. She also appears in a crossover strategy-role-playing-game for the PS3 and Vita called Super Heroine Chronicle. Sonico also has her own anime series with the title, Super Sonico the Animation. There also exists an official parody opening for the spin-off of Mahou Shoujo Madoka Magica featuring Sonico and her band mates entitled Mahou Shoujo Sonico Magica, which was released as Nitroplus April fool's prank.

As Nitroplus' adorable mascot character, Sonico gained fans worldwide due to not only her trademark appearance, but also from her illusive and honest-to-goodness personality. In the upcoming years, there is no doubt that her popularity will continue to skyrocket because of her active appearance in many titles.

Super Sonico's headstrong attitude and gentle appearance is sure to catch the heart of fans across different nations.

## CHARACTER PROFILE

Birth date: October 14, 2006

Nationality: Japanese

Blood Type: A

Likes: Cats, playing games and taking baths

Skills: Cooking, modeling and playing the guitar

Super Sonico is the lovable yet fictional mascot of the game company Nitroplus famed for releasing titles such as Chaos Head, Steins; Gate and Guilty Crown. Lost Christmas. Sonico is designed and created by Tsuji Santa for Nitroplus annual live event called Nitro Super Sonic.

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SubsonicForge](http://www.facebook.com/SubsonicForge)  
Contact #:  
0922-468-9696

# SUBSONIC FORGE

WHERE CLOSE ENOUGH  
IS NOT ENOUGH







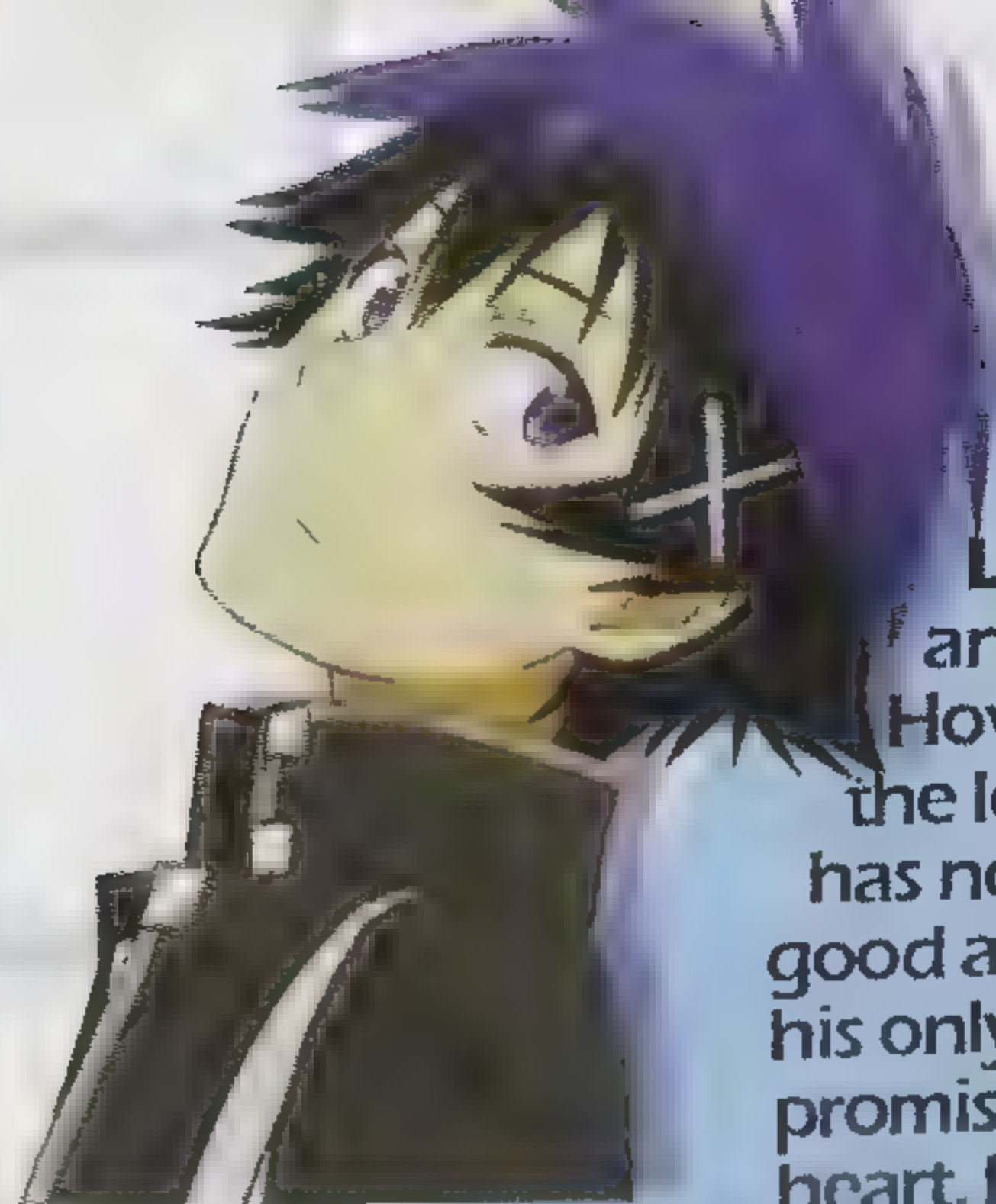
# True or False?

## The Answer is I Love You.

# NISEKOI

False Love

How long should one keep a promise of love? Is it right to pretend to love someone you most definitely don't? Can fake love become the real thing? Ah, love's many mysterious questions. Try asking Raku Ichijou. After all, he's answering the toughest one – who holds the key to his heart?



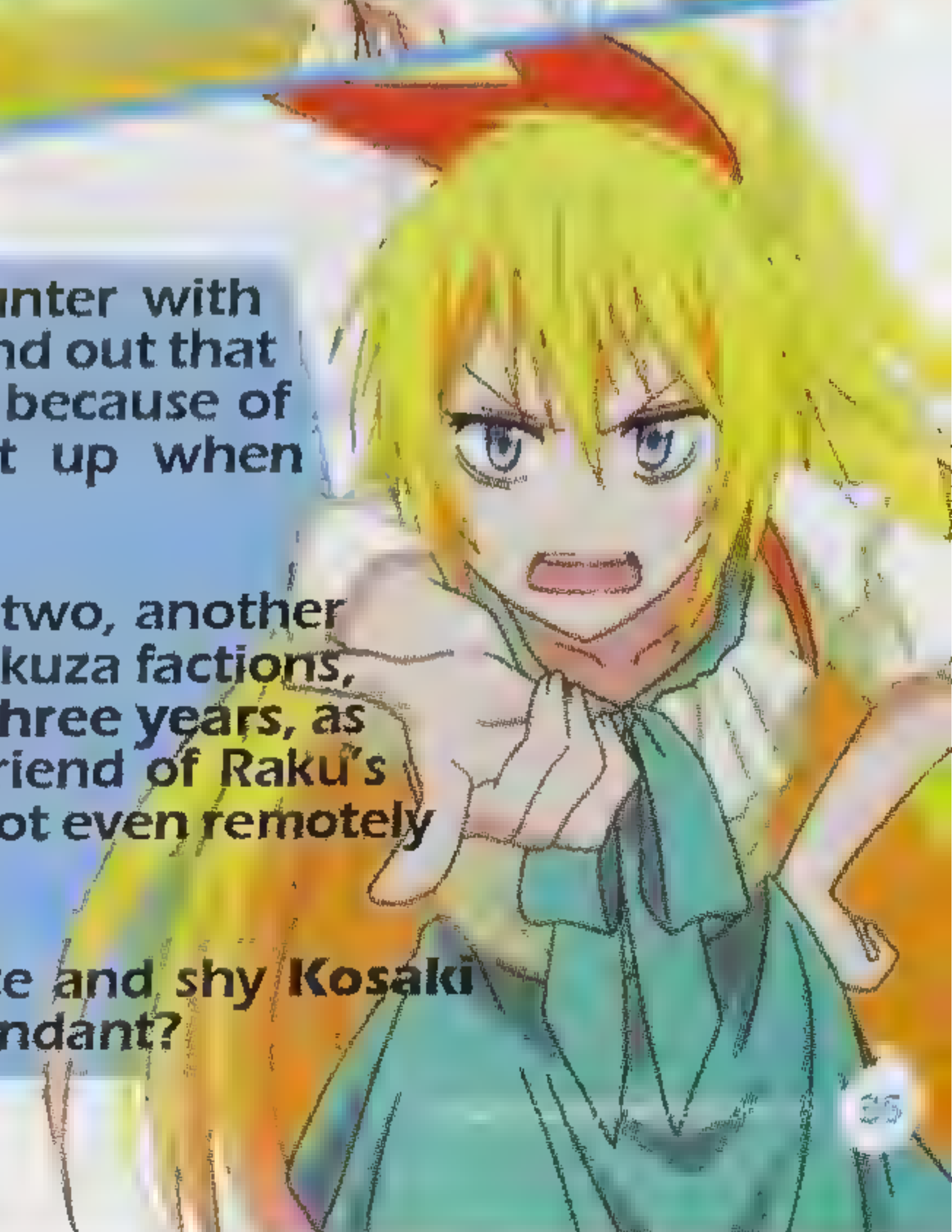
Based on the popular romantic comedy manga published in **Weekly Shonen Jump** by **Komi Naoshi**, **Nisekoi**, which literally means "Fake Love", is about a high school student named **Raku Ichijou**. He's a good and likeable boy who always goes out of his way to help out other people. However, despite his rather benevolent nature, he is ironically the son of the leader of the infamous **Shuuei Faction** of the **Yakuza**. Thankfully, he has no intentions of following his father's footsteps and just wants to be a good and simple man, a civil servant to be exact. But of course, that's not his only wish. You see, he awaits his one true love: the girl he made a promise with as a child, the one who holds the key not only to his heart, but to his keepsake pendant as well.



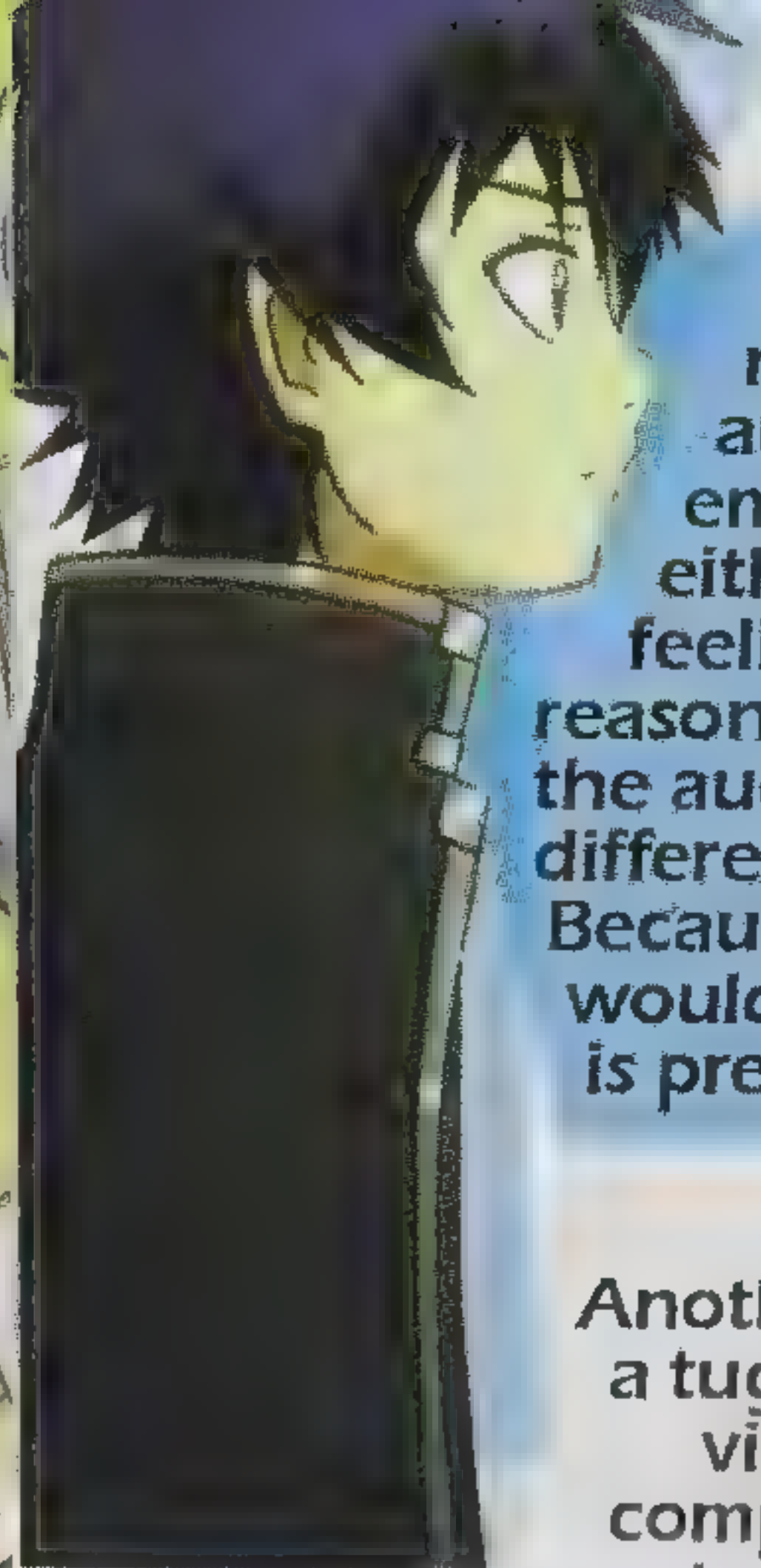
On the first day of school, he gets a painful encounter with **Kirisaki Chitoge** when she trips on him. They later find out that they will be classmates. They got on the wrong foot because of the previous incident, although they did patch it up when Chitoge finds Raku's missing pendant.

Just when things have become alright between the two, another complication arises: in order to pacify the warring yakuza factions, Raku and Chitoge must pretend to be a couple for three years, as Chitoge turns out to be the daughter of the old friend of Raku's father. How will this turn out considering they're not even remotely friends to begin with?

What about Raku's classmate and crush, the cute and shy **Kosaki Onodera**, who happens to hold the key to his pendant?





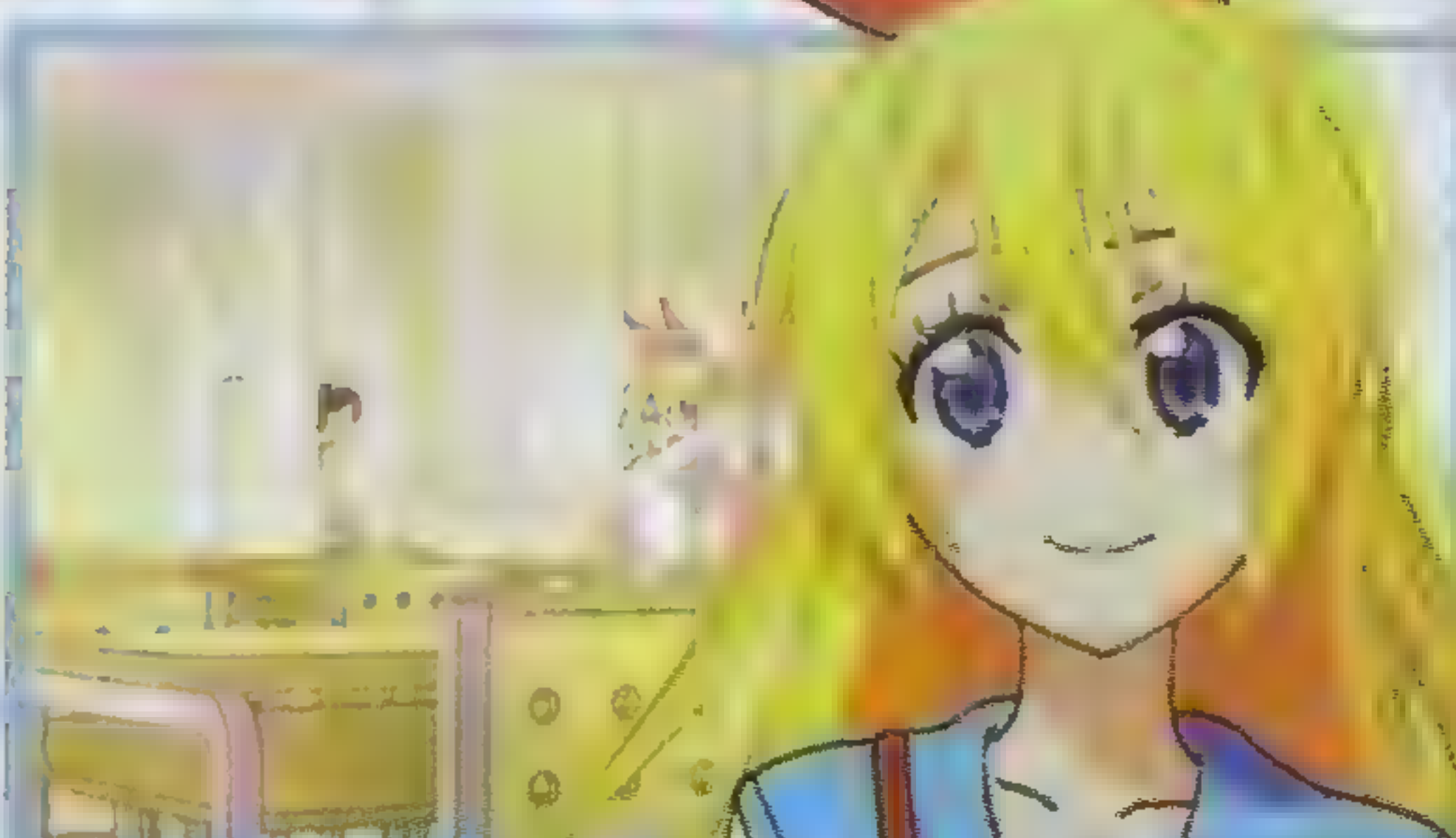


While there are so many elements reused from many other similar romantic comedy titles, what sets Nisekoi apart is that it makes the audience genuinely concerned about the characters' situations and emotions. Aside from that, there are also times when the POV becomes either one of the lead girls, giving the audience a perspective on the girls' feelings towards our main man, their love-ventures with him, and the reason why they fell for him in the first place. And the most vital effect is that the audience gets to see how Raku and their love for him change the different aspects of their personalities, and how it drives them into action. Because of such a setup, speculation among the viewers on which girl Raku would end up with and whether it would be the one he promised to or not is pretty much an expected and a very welcome byproduct.

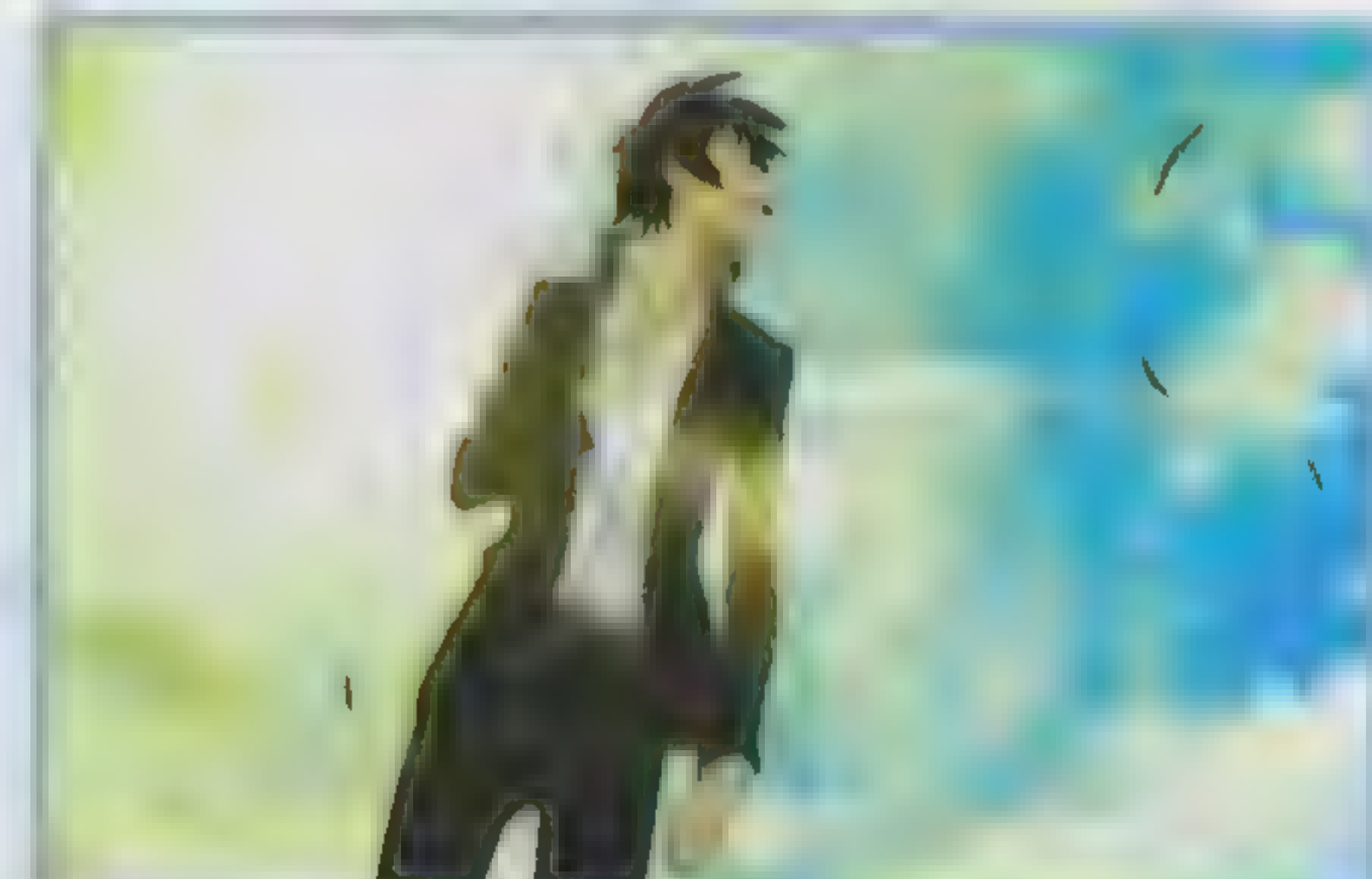
Another way that Nisekoi gives a tug to the heartstrings of its viewers is by throwing a complication just right off the bat, as it affects the main characters and the entire flow of the show in the process.



The art, being very lively, feels warm and upbeat, giving the series a generally lighthearted and happy tone as well as that much-necessary youthful spirit usually found in titles under the school life/slice of life genre. Another plus for the art is the many effects and gimmicks that perfectly enhance the supposed feel of the scenes. There's also slow-mo, sparkles, abrupt frame-by-frame montages, and over-emphasized objects, there is no awkwardly looking effect, giving the series its own signature style.



The characters, aside from being smoothly animated, are very lively, colorful, and full of personality. Be it the nice guy hero, the rough-and-tumble blonde "love" interest, the sweet yet timid girl or the ever-reliable best friend, they are definitely worth watching, and next thing you know you'll be putting your feet in their animated shoes. While there are also some heavy and dramatic scenes, they don't usually last too long and don't usually alter the mood.



Although there is obviously great focus on the romance part, the show very much has a lot of comedic moments. And what makes Nisekoi's humor a cut better than other titles in the harem genre is that it hardly resorts to either heavy fanservice or innuendos, and instead employs boy-girl misunderstandings, situations that should've either been heartwarming or romantic but becomes awkward and just downright weird, unexpected turn of events, and slapstick.



# The Young Lovers

## Raku Ichijou

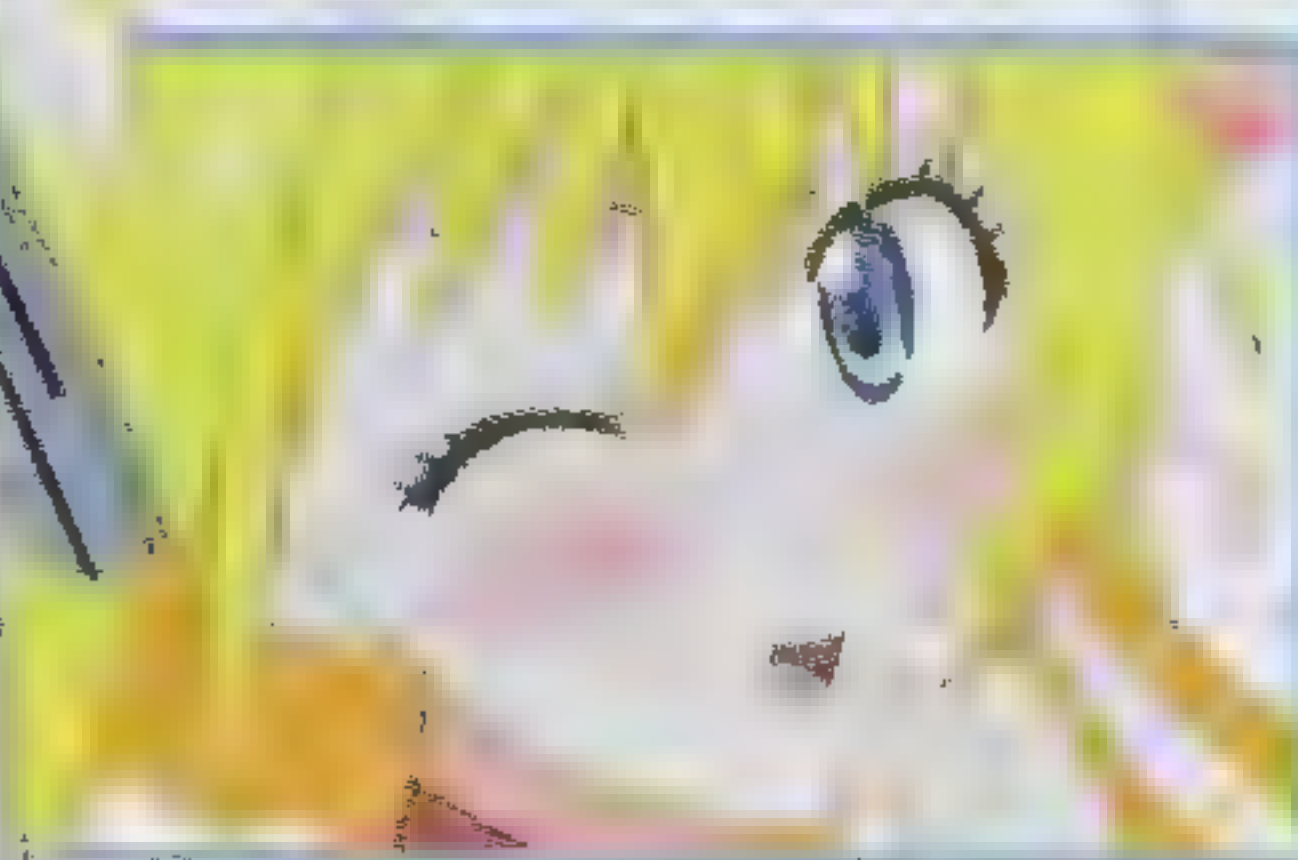
Our protagonist who is such a boy-next-door both in appeal and actions. But despite his rather usually pleasant demeanor, he got really ticked off with his new foreign classmate Kirisaki Chitoge and got off to quite a bad start with her.

And now that he don't have much of a choice but to pretend to be a couple with her, his heart is in for a one rollercoaster of a love ride.



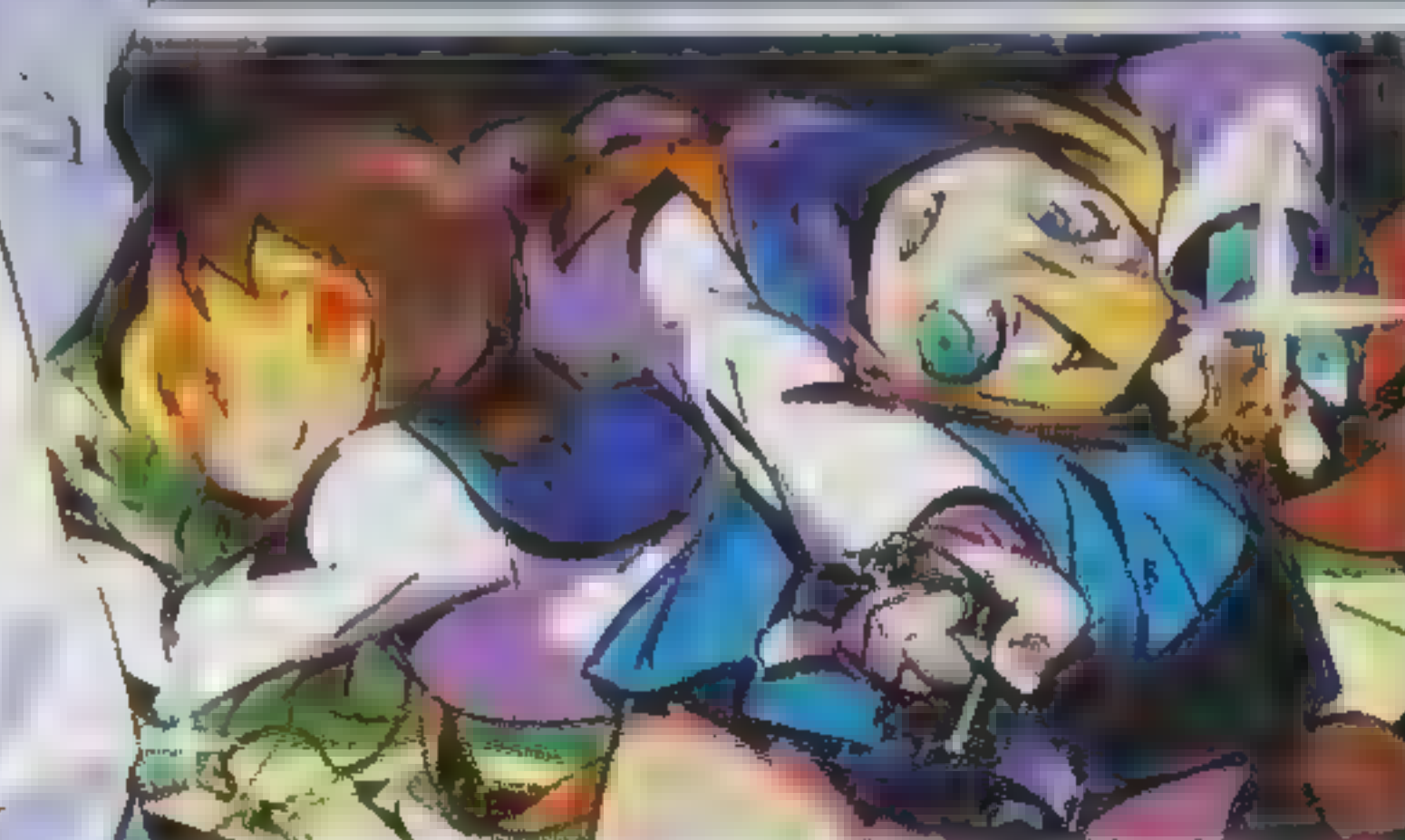
## Kirisaki Chitoge

With her long-flowing blonde hair and foreign beauty, Kirisaki Chitoge is the half-Japanese and half-American new girl in town who's already stealing the hearts of many boys...except for Raku's, thanks to their rather eventful first encounter. She's pretty, smart, and athletic, but she's also quite a loudmouth and has a knack to have fits of violent rage towards Raku. Sure, they've managed to not be mad at each other at the very least, but she's very much displeased with having to pretend that she's his girlfriend.



if we've got a boy next door, then Kisasi Onodera fits the bill as the girl-next-door. Kind-hearted and soft-spoken, she is always looking out for Raku, who she's been crushing on for so long, not to mention the fact that she holds the key to Raku's pendant. Problem is that she can't seem to spit it out. And now that Raku and Kirisaki have to fake a little love affair for the sake of peace between their families, the biggest question Kisasi has is if she still has a shot with her long-time love.

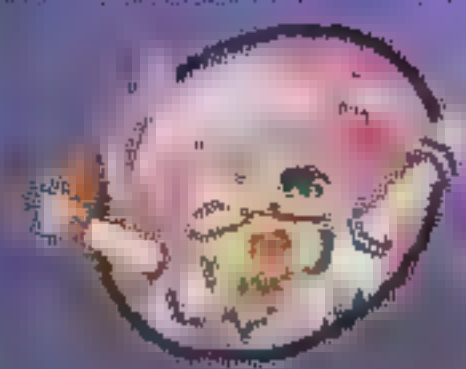
## Kisasi Onodera



Even though Nisekoi has those age-old and oh-so-familiar tropes from the harem/romance/school life genre, it hardly feels forced and gives what is expected a bit of a twist, giving the show a lot of genuineness and a sense of uniqueness. So even if you think that it's just a rip-off, give it a go, and you'll really fall in love with this little gem for real...over and over again.







THE HUMAN ROBOT

# The Human Robot

by Kei

Robots are made with the intention of making life much easier for humans. They have all the qualities that make them superior to us, except for one thing. To them, human emotion is a foreign idea that does not exist in their databank, which explains why robots are incapable of understanding what it feels like to experience joy, hatred, or even sadness. But if a robot was given a chance to become a human, will it finally be able to understand the essence of human emotion?

**Kurumi** lost the will to live now that her beloved **Hal** died in a plane accident. To help Kurumi move on with her late boyfriend's death, a robot was asked by her grandfather to be reborn as a human—as Hal. The robot, now calling himself as "Hal", realizes that he doesn't know anything about the real Hal's past and his relationship with Kurumi. A Rubik's cube with short messages written on it as well as various stuff left behind in a small button shop serves as Hal's guide to learn more about the real Hal and Kurumi.

**HAL (Haru)** is a short romance film directed by **Ryoutarou Makihara** that was released last June 2013. During the same year, a 4-chapter manga adaptation made by **Umi Ayase** was released from March to June in the **Bessatsu Margaret Magazine**.



## REVIEW

The film follows **HAL**, a robot that perfectly resembles the real Hal, coming to a small Japanese town in order to help **Kurumi** overcome the cruel reality of losing a loved one. As you watch the film, you're automatically "participating" in a puzzle game with HAL. Solving one side of the Rubik's cube after another eventually made Kurumi open up to the new Hal and gave him a bit of information about their relationship. During the times when the film shifts to Kurumi's point of view, the disjointed recordings of the past from a broken video camera confirm that the couple's relationship wasn't as perfect as we thought it was. Combining those two, the story gradually becomes complete, but also raising certain questions.

Since the film focuses on Hal and Kurumi, the futuristic setting where robots and humans coexist played a small role. At some point in the story, the real Hal's childhood years revealed that there is a darker side to HAL's storyline, but the film didn't show any further details regarding it.

## CHARACTERS

(CV: Yoshimasa Hosoya)

### HAL



A robot that looks exactly like the original Hal. He was asked by Kurumi's grandfather to help his granddaughter regain her will to live. During the time HAL tries to know more about the couple, he learned that the real Hal was abandoned by his parents because they were unable to pay the bill for the heart transplant surgery when he was a child. Since then, he was forced to commit illegal activities until he met Kurumi.

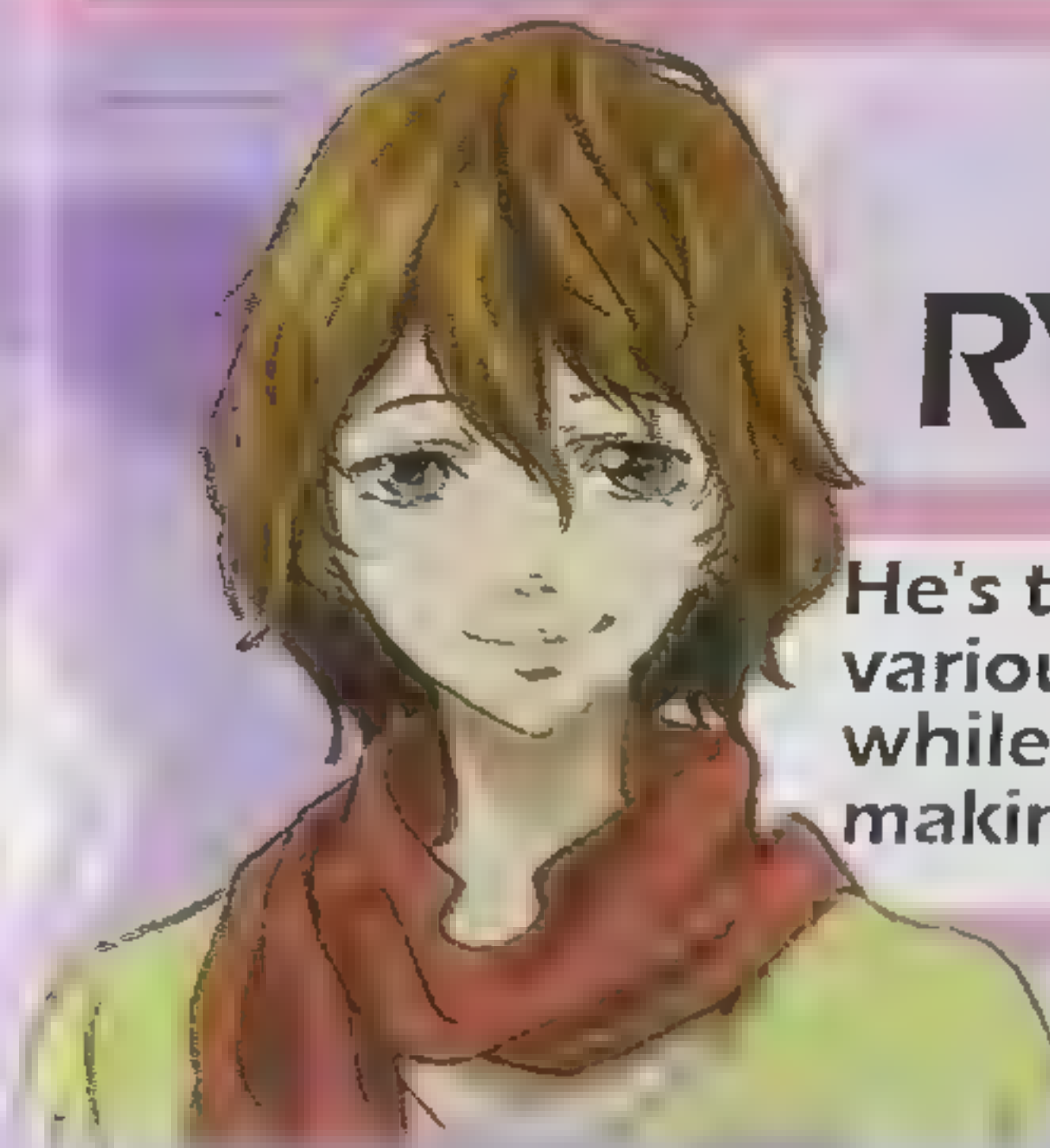
(CV: Yoko Hikasa)

### KURUMI

Hal's ex-girlfriend who lost her will to live after he died in a plane accident. She gradually opens up to the robot who resembles her late boyfriend and shared a bit of detail about their history. Kurumi plans to open a button shop in order to earn money for their living expenses.



### RYU (CV: Mamoru Miyano)



He's the real Hal's childhood friend. They both grew up committing various crimes such as stealing to please their boss. Ryu met HAL while he is being pursued by gangsters, hinting that he is still making a living through illegal activities.

One of HAL's charms is the animation itself. The scenery is visually pleasing with its vibrant colors and reflections. Along with it is a soundtrack that captures the mood the film creates. The voice cast for HAL did a really great job in portraying their characters, especially **Yoko Hikasa** as Kurumi. She also sang the ending song titled "**Owaranai Uta**", which gives the film a bittersweet feeling and a sense of completeness at the same time.

Despite its short duration, HAL is a touching story reminding us that love can end abruptly in the most tragic way possible. It's definitely a spectacular movie worth watching.



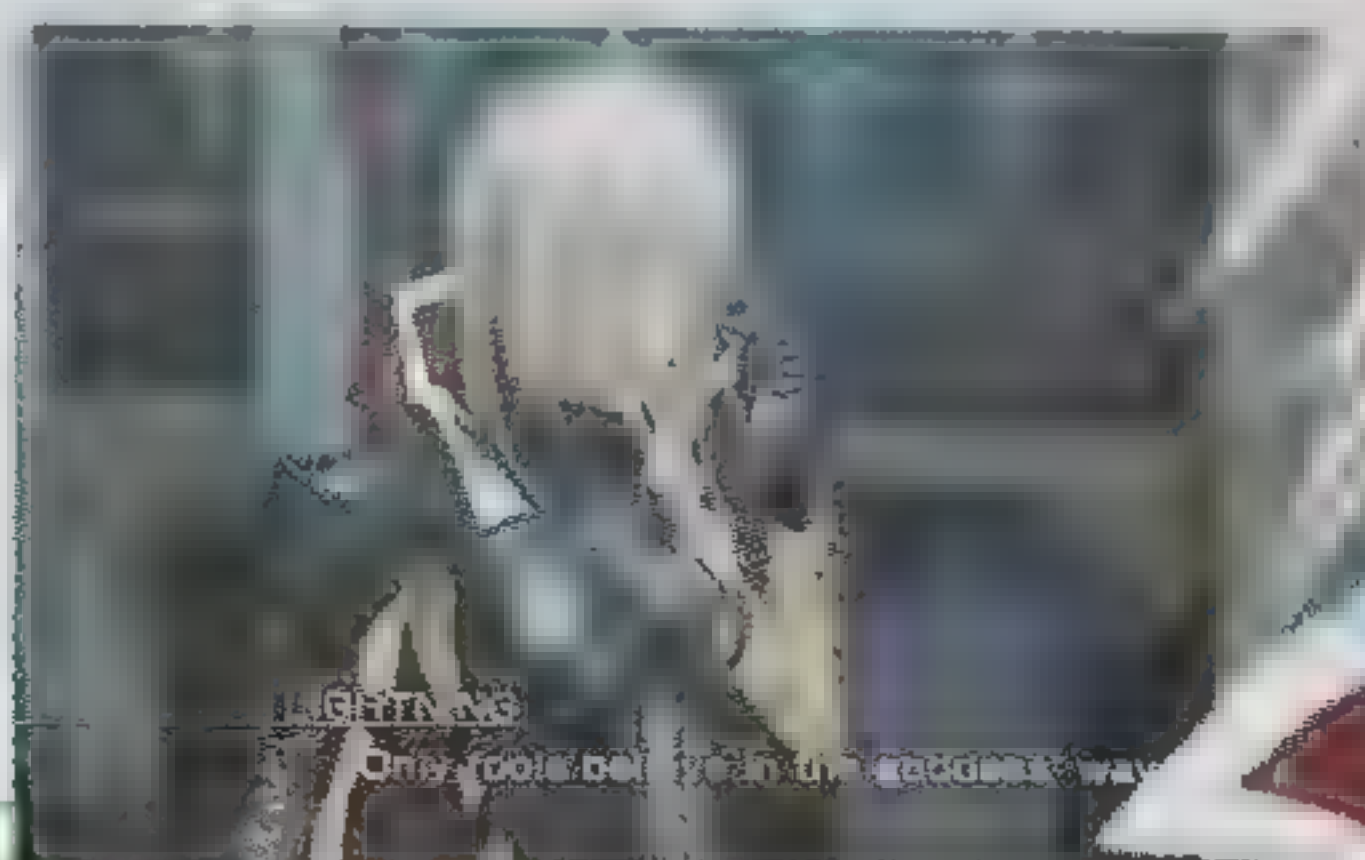
# A SAVIOR from the Old World



When things in **Nova Chrysalia** seem grim, then arrives a savior who awoke from 500 years of slumber; a resolute warrior from the world of yore is tasked with a heavy burden of granting salvation to the inhabitants of the corroding world. In this unfamiliar world she sets out on a journey to save both friends and foes. Will she be able to fulfill her role before the appointed day of reckoning? Find out in the latest and final installment of the **Final Fantasy XIII Trilogy: Lightning Returns**.

**Lightning Returns: Final Fantasy XIII** is a single-player role-playing game published and developed by **Square Enix** released for the PS3 and Xbox 360. The game is produced by **Yoshinori Kitase** and directed by **Motomu Kitase** as part of the **Fabula Nova Crystallis** series.

**Lightning Returns** is a sequel to **Final Fantasy XIII-2** which is intended to bring an end to the **Final Fantasy XIII** trilogy.



**Lightning Returns'** development started not long after the release of **XIII-2** in May 2012 which was announced at **Final Fantasy's 25th Anniversary**. The game uses the **Crystal Tools Engine** and was promised to feature an enhanced gameplay system along with a brand new world, characters and story. The game also features a single ending like its predecessors but players will not be required to purchase the downloadable content to acquire the ending like in **XIII-2**.



**Lightning Returns** was released in Japan last year in November while the US release is set this month of February 2014.

## SETTING AND GAMEPLAY

The game is set **500 years after** the end of **XIII-2** in the world of **Nova Chrysalia** that is fated for an inevitable apocalypse within thirteen days. **Nova Chrysalia** or **Novus Partus** was created when both **Gran Pulse** and **Valhalla** fused together. Due to merging into one world, humans have been stripped of their ability to age and reproduce.

In this desolate world, players take the control of **Lightning**, the game's main protagonist. Players may explore the open-world of **Nova Chrysalia** whilst taking quest like any casual role-playing game. The battle system features a modified version of its prequels known as **Style Change Active Time Battle** that enables players to freely take control of **Lightning's** movements in real time. **Lightning** can of course be customized with a wide variety of weapons, styles and special costumes.



## PLAYABLE CHARACTER

**Lightning**, the main protagonist for the **Final Fantasy XIII** trilogy returns once more as the sole playable character in the game, unlike in the previous games where players can create a party with the use of different characters.

After her self-imposed hibernation has ended, **Lightning** awakes in the unfamiliar world of **Nova Chrysalia** and she was anointed as a savior by **Bhunivetze**. She now faces a new set of trials which will more or less take the span of thirteen days. **Lightning** will cross paths with her former friends and allies who will either assist her in her crusade or hinder her path.







# A REALM REBORN™

## FINAL FANTASY XIV ONLINE

### Sharing Your Fantasies

Set five years after the original Final Fantasy XIV, the game takes place in Eorzea during the **Seventh Umbral Era**, which was heralded by the **Calamity**, a devastating event wherein the elder primal **Bahamut** was summoned by the **Garlean Empire** to lay waste on all of Eorzea. Because of this, in order to rebuild the land, the **Eorzean Alliance** was formed by the three city-states: the desert sultanate of **Ul'dah**, the forest city of **Gridania**, and the thalassocracy of **Limsa Lominsa**. With the land in such dire need, adventurers from different far-flung lands saw this as an opportunity to gain fame, fortune, and glory by the aiding the people and their governments. But little do they know that they will be fighting for something bigger than their ambitions, and they will be fighting for it against forces to be reckoned with.

In A Realm Reborn, players get to choose among the game's five races, each of which is further divided into two sub-races. While the different races as well as their sub-races differ in stats, they are very minimal, making the choice of the players boil down to aesthetic appreciation. These races include:

#### HYUR



They have emigrated from different lands to Eorzea, bringing along their culture and technology with them.

Subdivided to the advanced Midlanders and the warrior Highlanders.

#### ELEZEN



The "elf" race in the game, they are the original inhabitants of Eorzea.

Subdivided to the forest-dwelling Wildwood and the cave-dwelling Duskwight.

#### LALAFELL



A race of minuscule people with pointy ears, they are further divided to the Plainsfolk who live in huts and the Dunesfolk who live in deserts.

#### MIOOTE

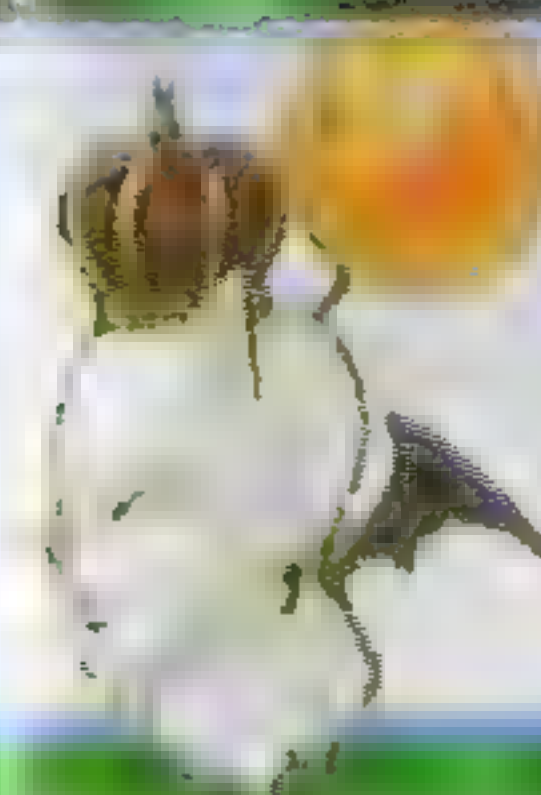


People that almost resembles humans save their cat-like ears and tails, they are split into two: the diurnal Seekers of the Sun and the nocturnal Keepers of the Moon.

#### ROEGADYN



Hulking giants hailing from the seas north of Eorzea, their two subraces are the naval Sea Wolves and Lohengarde who live near volcanoes.



Aside from the races, players can also choose from **eight classes**. The classes are not only divided into the physically oriented **Disciples of War** and the mystically attuned **Disciples of Magic**, as they also fit one of the three usual RPG roles: the **tough tank** that takes the damage for the party, the **DPS** that deals damage the most efficient way they know how, and the **healer** that is mostly geared for not only healing but also supportive buffs.



For the **Disciples of War**, there is the **Gladiator** (tank) which can become a **Paladin** at level 30, the **Marauder** (tank) which can become a **Warrior** at level 30, the **Lancer** (DPS) which can become a **Dragoon** at level 30, the **Archer** (DPS) which can become a **Bard** at level 30, and the **Pugilist** (DPS) that can become a **Monk** at level 30.

As for the **Disciples of Magic**, these include the **Conjurer** (Healer) which can become a **White Mage** at level 30, the **Thaumaturge** (DPS) which can become **Black Mage** at level 30, and the **Arcanist** (Healer/DPS) that can either become **Scholar** (Healer) or **Summoner** (DPS) at level 30.

What makes the class system unique is that the classes level up and not exactly the character. Coupled by the players being allowed to change classes, one single character can attain all classes, with all the classes capped at 50. And not only that, as the system allows some skills from other classes to be used by another class, depending on the skill.

With Eorzea being a big world, there is so much to do. Battle monsters as well as other adventurers, do quests, and even run dungeon raids. And if you're done with battling eldritch creatures, you can take up crafting jobs such as leatherworking, blacksmithing, alchemy, culinarian, carpentry, and goldsmithing. You can also get gathering jobs such as fishing, mining, and botany.

And of course, last but definitely not least is the storyline. After all, it wouldn't be Final Fantasy without a heartwarming tale full of adventure and danger. Aside from the thousands of other people playing with you, you will be sharing your story with a handful of memorable NPCs that are part of the story, giving players that much needed emotional torque to not only be the hero they want to be but the one Eorzea needs.

All in all, Final Fantasy XIV: A Realm Reborn is a more than worthy addition to the already impressive roster. With everything you've come to love in the franchise adapted to a tried-and-tested MMORPG and then given solid gameplay and controls, you'll be having the adventure of a lifetime.





Ring Wraiths (Nazgul) are nine men bound by obedience to Sauron through a ring of power. They aged but never died. Their souls became spirits visible only to whoever wore the One Ring. Their weapon, the Morgul-blade is poisonous. After getting stabbed, the blade will turn to dust. The dust will work its way through the body to the heart. Once the heart is contaminated, the victim becomes a wraith.

Taking place between the events of The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings, Middle-earth: Shadow of Mordor introduces Talion as the game's protagonist, a ranger turned wraith.

Based on the official Middle-earth: Shadow of Mordor gameplay video, it seems like this game is going to be one of those games that require players to do wall-climbing and rope-walking to get around both places and enemies. This also gives way to easier kills, as stealth-killing is also present. In addition to that, the protagonist, Talion, is a wraith which is a good addition to all the action sequences of the game. Talion can use his Wraith powers to dominate his enemies and control their actions. The player gets the chance to choose whether to send the enemy to assassinate a target to make way for lesser battle sequences, spy and relay useful information from the enemies to gain knowledge against them or spread terror to the other enemies by carrying out the message of what he's witnessed. This gets handy along with your plan as you can use it to gain the upper hand in a battle.

Talion can also warp between enemies, which is a good tactic if a target is running away from you. This ability is, of course, exclusive only in his Wraith-state.

## SHADOW OF MORDOR

Middle-earth: Shadow of Mordor also has a unique feature in the name of Nemesis system, where every enemy you face is different and has different strengths and weaknesses as well as personalities. These particular enemies are shaped depending on your past encounters with them. These encounters trigger certain scenarios.

The Nemesis system shows that every enemy is different, depending on their ranks, strengths and weaknesses. Every enemy has their own memory as well, creating personal archenemies. For example, if you didn't kill an enemy in the first encounter, they will have different conversations and tactics the next time you see them. They can also get more powerful from the last time you encountered them. This makes battles more interesting and unique, as every battle will be different depending on what you do.

Of course, players have the freedom to choose whether they prefer facing enemies head-on by battling and killing every single enemy or by taking them out the old-fashioned espionage way. This also further says that Middle-earth: Shadow of Mordor isn't just another hack-and-slash game.



Written by: Levin

You are a valiant hero on horseback who ventured into the unknown in order to bring a girl back to life. Unfortunately for you, the requirement for reviving the girl is not as easy as giving her a magic kiss. A voice of an omnipotent entity spoke to you and proposed a deal: with an ancient sword in hand, your task is to slay all sixteen massive beings scattered around the land in exchange for the girl's life.

Explore the vast and uninhabited peninsula as Wander, along with his traveling companion, Agro goes on a journey to defeat the colossi in order to restore the life of a girl named Mono.

The player's goal is to find and defeat a colossus inhabiting a specific area. By raising his sword while in a sunlit area, the reflecting beam of light will point out the location of the colossus Wander must defeat. The colossi are armored, enormous creatures taking forms ranging from various humanoids to predatory animals, and can live in land, sea and air.

Once a colossus is found, the player must find its weakness in order to slay it. Find the glowing sigil, indicating its weak spot. The colossi have areas with fur or ledges sticking out of its body, which the player can use to climb. Wander has a limited stamina gauge that decreases while he hangs onto the creature, and will cause him to fall once it's depleted.



written by: Kei

Shadow of the Colossus is very unusual for an action-adventure game. As there are no other humans to interact with, no dungeons to explore and no monsters to defeat, the game makes it clear that the player's only enemy are the colossi. The player is required to have both quick reflexes and thinking since every battle against a colossus is like solving a series of puzzles. Shadow of the Colossus is one good example of a video game art due to its great emphasis on the landscape. The gameplay which focuses on one-on-one battles against the colossi deserves a round of applause since the feeling of scaling and hanging onto a creature 10 times your size is a video game experience a gamer will never forget. Lastly, the soundtrack was also widely praised for capturing the emotions the player must feel throughout the game.

Hailed as one of the greatest PS2 games of all time, Shadow of the Colossus is a masterpiece that will immerse the player with its beautiful yet uninhabited world and intense colossus battles.





## HOT ANIME

Humans are terrestrial beings, and our bodies are built in a way for certain living conditions. Needless to say, if we are originally underwater creatures, wanting to live and surface onto the land would logically count as defiance towards nature. Almost as if forbidden love exists between these elements, the land and the ocean can only meet at a certain point. In a literary point of view, the land may be associated with Romeo: strong, stable, and valiant; while, the ocean is as profound, mysterious, and turbulent as a woman like Juliet. If Juliet's people fall in love with the land that is Romeo, she can only let go, and allow them to experience a world that's different from what they have been accustomed to.

In the world of Nagi no Asukara, people have long been living underwater. For curiosity's sake, some of them decided to explore what's on top of the ocean. In order to be successful, they sacrificed a girl who is originally the ancestor of sea people. This move has been considered an upheaval by the loyal residents of the ocean floor, creating a margin between the two societies: Shioishio from the sea, and Oshiooshi from the land. The surface people faced a lot of hardships once they had arrived on land, and involuntarily brought troubles to the sea people. The surface people had constantly experienced drought and scarcity of water which often led to fishing within the rival's boundaries. These, in turn, made most sea people angry at them. It is a long-life battle between sea loyalists and surface adventurers.

Present day, on the sea, a middle school closes down, compelling some of the sea students to come up the surface and study on land. Hikari Sakishima is a hot-headed middle schooler from Shioishio who refuses to acknowledge everything surface-related. Despite being transfer students, he encourages his other three childhood friends, Manaka, Chisaki, and Kaname, to still wear the uniform from their former middle school. Right at the beginning of class, when surface students call them "smelly fish", he immediately retorts at them with the label "smelly pigs." He is protective of his friends, especially Manaka. Manaka Mukaido, on the other hand, has fondness with surface people. She was once caught in a fishing net held by a fisherman's son, Tsumugu Kihara, who coincidentally their classmate in the new school, and has been warm-hearted to him ever since. It has long been known, however, that relationships between sea people and surface people are prohibited. Somehow, by moving up the surface, their relationships with one another might change, and one realization may hit them hard like ocean rocks.

Nagi no Asukara is originally a manga being published by ASCII Works, and is currently animated under P.A. Works Studio with 26 episodes. Both the manga and anime are still on-going, so we can expect much more plot and character development. Meanwhile, the animation is so breathtaking that you'll gasp here and there, as if you literally plunged right into the sea. Everything is bright underwater, with all different kinds of fish swimming around homes, even inside the rooms of the characters. Additionally, even though life on the surface may seem a little boring because we're all familiar with it, it was still depicted as a great place to live in, all thanks to the amazing animation.

Like a fierce man and a mystifying woman, both the ocean and the land are vast places to explore; all the more when their people are far away from each other by body and by heart. But with a common ground, love can be realized and achieved. A refreshing anime and a good watch, Nagi no Asukara will surely capture your hearts in a sea of delight.

# 風のあすか

NAGI NO ASUKARA

written by: Lizzie







# WHITE ALBUM 2

ホワイトアルバム

We're all familiar with the term "love triangles", but what does a love triangle consist anyway? In here we have three people sharing affection to the other, with one or two of them unreciprocated. However, if you look closely at a love triangle with two girls and one boy or vice versa, geometrically, it is erratic.

For instance, a girl loves a boy, her love unrequited because he likes the second girl. In a hetero love triangle, this is wrong, because that way, the second girl would have to set her affections on the first girl mentioned in the equation. In that situation, it is not allowed. In other words, the usual love triangle we know does not really form a triangle, but just an angle and a line pointing towards nowhere. It symbolizes open-endedness; the possibilities are vast and anything can happen. *White Album 2* has flawlessly depicted this legendary "love triangle" in its own way.

Welcome to the melodic world of Haruki Kitahara, a helpful senior student at Houjou University High. The Light Music Club, where he plays as a back-up guitarist, breaks up, leaving him lost all of a sudden. As if this misfortune is not enough, he receives a text from one of the Fair Committee members that Setsuna Ogiso, the school idol, wants to back out from Miss Houjou High pageant. Everyone in the committee thinks that the fair will not push through if Setsuna won't participate, but Haruki allows Setsuna to do what she wants despite the quite tedious lecture he has given her. Amidst these unfortunate events, Haruki finds solace after school in Music Room 1 where he usually plays the song "White Album" in his guitar. And within that course, he has always been accompanied by an anonymous elite pianist from Music Room 2. He is enamoured by that person while they play music together without really seeing each other. The following day, his harmony with the elite pianist is now accompanied by vocals, to Haruki's surprise. He goes to meet that person singing on the rooftop and is amazed to see Setsuna. Haruki suddenly remembers the Light Music Club. After all that has happened, it turns out that he hasn't given up on the Light Music Club yet, and in that moment, he asks Setsuna if he wants to join the club.

*White Album 2* is a twofold adult visual novel published by Leaf in 2010. Earlier in 2013, a light novel based on it was published and is still on-going this year. In the late 2013, an anime adaptation was aired having 13 episodes. *White Album 2* may be moderately associated with *White Album* that was aired last 2009, but it is not necessary to watch the first installment. All back stories of the relevant characters in this newest adaptation are found in it.

The art, although not that impressive and profound, is still remarkable. It is only logical to animate it the way, since the focus of this anime is on character development and relationship and not on detailing sceneries that have only little significance in their progress. Additionally, the character designs fit their personalities well. Haruki breaks the glibble, women-loving, protagonist stereotype, considering the fact that *White Album 2* is originally an adult visual novel. Setsuna is not your typical school idol either, and Kazusa Touma is beyond the calm and cold princess type of character. They act normally, just like well-behaved students do in real life. It is refreshing to watch an anime that perfectly fits the "slice of life" genre.

*White Album 2* does not let you romanticize love triangles, because with all honesty, love is painful enough between a couple in certain situations, let alone three people. This anime brings out the realistic side of love: people are about to get hurt, and decisions have to be made, so the characters need to consider every aspect while exploring the confusing world of love. It does not immediately start with fluff, however. *White Album 2* may be a harem anime, but it has set amazing standards in the said category. There will be intense relationship progress and twists before a character can say, "Ah, I really love him/her."

Understanding the concept of love triangle may be easy once you watch *White Album 2*. Moreover, the music in this anime is a good blend with the mood this Valentine's. Delve into the world of *White Album 2*, with music and love playing harmoniously on the background.





## HOT ANIME

Riki Naoe has that unconscious ability to make noble wishes come true, no matter how silly or complicated they are. It is not a supernatural ability; he is simply a helpful and hardworking member of Little Busters, a baseball team formed by his friends from childhood. As the fifth member to have been recruited into Little Busters, Riki has the knack to assist other people with their problems, almost turning him into a wish fulfiller. Through time, he has become one of the most reliable members of their team, as girls often ask him for help. She is a cynical, seemingly emotionless, and doubtful genius who learns how to acknowledge people's friendly efforts to know her. Yuiko feels deeply indebted to Riki with her newly found self. So with her unchanging and deep-felt emotions, she makes a wish that would change the course of her meaningful friendship with Riki.

"I wish this moment lasts forever," says Yuiko, as she traps Riki's memories in her own dream zone.



## リトルバスターズ

Little Busters

Little Busters! Refrain starts from where the first season has left off. The team still wants to celebrate despite their loss over the last baseball game they had played. They hold a pancake party and it has been a huge success; thanks to the ladies of Little Busters who helped prepare and cook pancakes in the occasion. To express their gratitude to the ladies, the young men plan another event: a fireworks display on the 20th of June. Little does Riki know that the 20th of June is bound to repeat itself because of Yuiko's wish, like a music box that never stops and whose owner cannot seem to wake up from the sound it makes.

Despite a melancholic beginning and a mysterious development in the plotline, the second season undoubtedly shows a set of diverse characters making up the Little Busters team.



### Party Ideas from Little Busters! Refrain

#### Pancake party: Girls love making pancakes!

The beautiful young ladies of Little Busters do not only excel in academics or sports, but also in cooking/pancake-making. In celebration of the Little Busters' gathering after their unfortunate baseball match, Komari takes over the kitchen with the assistance of Kud. They make a lot of pancakes which leaves everyone slouched on their seats with bulging stomachs. Everyone loves pancakes with different fillings and syrup flavours, and it is indeed, a good party idea meant to be held in the morning, or in the afternoon.

#### Fireworks display: The boys light up their little world!

Kyousuke, the plan master, has been greatly pleased by the pancake party that he plans to have another event for the girls of his team. Being his well-informed self, he invites the boys to light fireworks, a knowledge he obtained from a previous part-time job. He assigns Riki to gather the girls to the best spot where they could watch fireworks, and the other boys must help in lighting the fireworks with him. It is a party idea that should be done in a clear evening sky.

While Little Busters! Refrain can stand on its own, watching the first season is technically relevant for the audience to know each character in-depth. While watching, don't refrain from bawling your eyes out or from laughing uncontrollably. In fact, it is advisable that you let those emotions out.



# Year of the Fujoshi

Yaoi is boys love. A lot of manga and anime have shown yaoi and some girl otakus are very fond of these. Fujoshi is what they're called. Let us meet Kae-chan who has a great imagination when it comes to male coupling.

Chubby second-year high schooler **Serinuma Kae** is an avid fujoshi who secretly imagines her hot male classmates to couple with each other. Some of them are her friends though some are rude because of her chubby appearance; she can manage to imagine a lot Boys Love scene in her heart's content. Until one day, the death of her favorite game character Shion causes her depression and rapid weight loss. After a week of not attending school, she was shocked to see herself as a beautiful girl. Everyone was surprised that this chubby otaku girl turns into an attractive girl in just one week. Now, her classmates **Igarashi**, **Nanashima**, her kouhai **Shinomiya** and her sempai **Mutsumi** are drawn to her new look. How will Kae handle this situation with her as being a fujoshi? Can this be a disaster or a paradise for more boys love imagination?

**Boys, Please Kiss Him Instead of Me** or known as **Watashi Ga Motete Dousun Da** is a comedy, harem, romance, school life and shoujo genre manga written and drawn by **Junko It** is an on-going status serialized in **Bessatsu Friend** (Kodansha) with a total of 3 chapters' release.

Unlike most of the shoujo manga that girls change out of their determination to become a beautiful girl, this manga gives a surprising twist to a girl who suddenly becomes a real beauty. Will she be able to cope up with her new appearance and sudden change of her environment? Will there be capable man who will capture her heart? Lastly, is this a new development to her imagination of her Boys Love fantasies?

Find out more about **Watashi Motete Dousun Da** by reading it or buying the manga. Surely, you will love the crazy and humorous life of Kae-chan.

We all have been to a sweet shop just to buy cakes, candies, chocolates, macaroons and other sweet delicacy we can find in the shop. As you taste these delicious treats, it melts in your mouth and gives you this pleasure that will fulfill your taste buds. Not only do they bring the pleasure of every bite, they can also bring a comfort to our heart.

A young girl named **Komomo Ninomiya** is a rich spoiled mistress who bullies her friend **Azumi Natsu**, the gourmet chef's son who takes care of the young mistress. Even though Komomo is being treated like a princess, her true happiness is to be with her busy parents. Only Natsu's confections gives her the comfort she needs when her parents are not around. Although the confections are not that great, she felt safe and warm through them. Until one day, Natsu leaves for France to be confectioner. He leaves a bunch of sweets for Komomo as his last goodbye. After 10 years, Komomo is having a dilemma because of her parent's miserable business that ended up her being poor. As a former mistress, her habit of being prideful and pushy has caused her to be fired three times from her part-time jobs. Natsu shows up and brings her to his confectionery shop. He insisted Komomo to be his employee and even stay in the shop. It seems that the weak Natsu has become a sadist over the years. How can Komomo handle this new environment? Will she be able to taste his confection again? Will she maintain her queen-like attitude? Or become a humble servant of Natsu's confectionary shop?

Best known author of manga series **Special A**, **Maki Minami** comes with her new work **Komomo Confiserie**. It is comedy, romance and shoujo manga with an on-going status, total 5 chapters' release. It is serialized in **Hana to Yume** (Hakusensha).

This story of riches to rags situation comes with the sweetest confection you will ever find. From a filled luxury to nothing and from weak to sadistic, these sudden changes will give the readers the interest of this humorous manga as the characters develop in each chapter.

Wanna taste Natsu's confection? Or want to know more about Komomo's torture days? You just need to find out for yourself. Read or buy **Komomo Confiserie**!



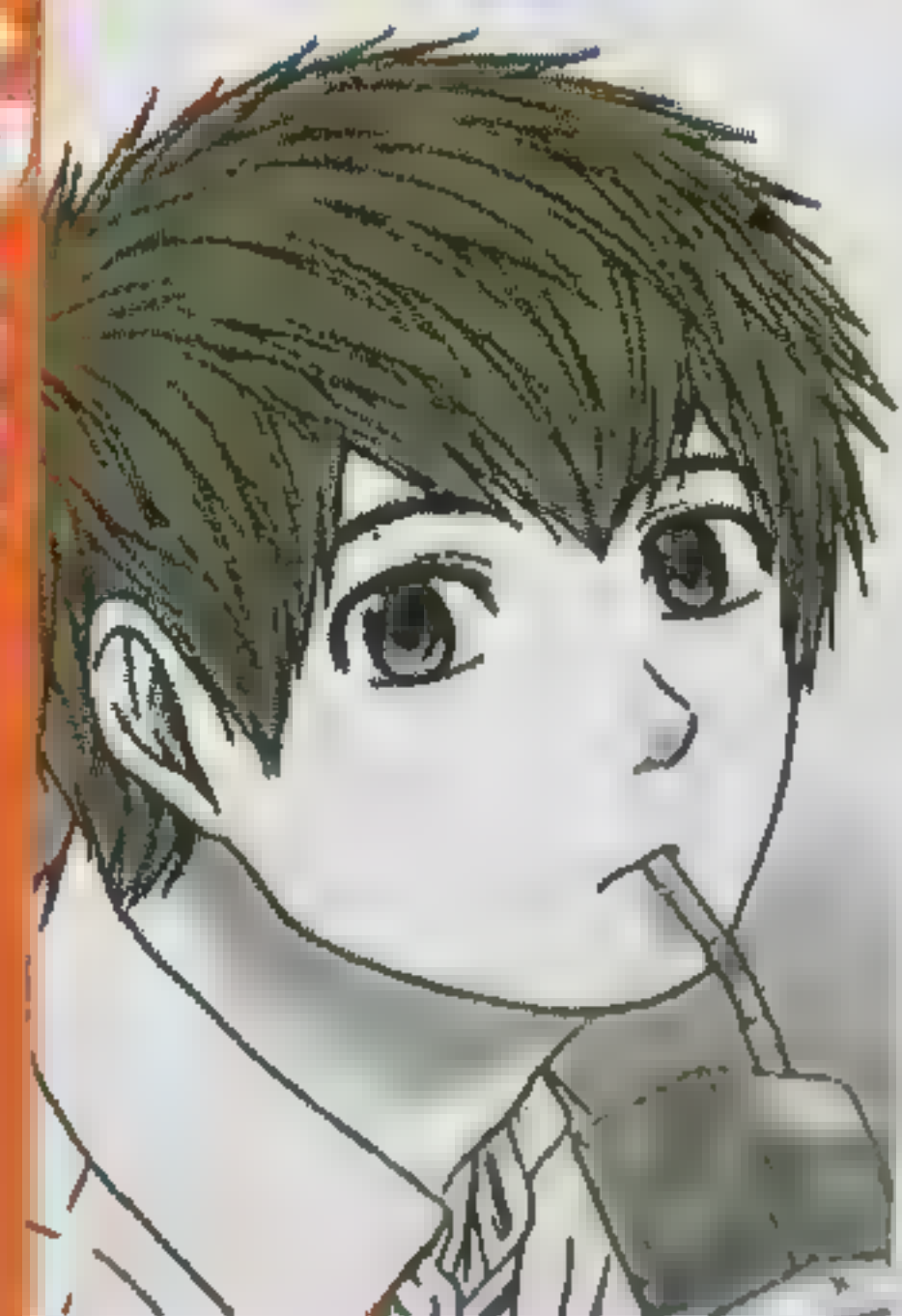


MANGA

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# Beginning with the End in Mind

By: James Young Bayot



"And they all lived happily ever after. The end." That's how you know that the fairy tale is over. But love in real life is way more different. We're not princes and princesses. However, that doesn't mean there's no such thing as happy endings. The manga **Good Ending** shows is that there can be a happy ending for us all because love conquers all.

Written and drawn by Sasuga Kei, **Good Ending** revolves a freshman named **Seiji Utsumi**, who's been secretly crushing on **Shou Iketani**, the tennis club's captain. In fact, he's so smitten with her that he's been watching her play as he sits on the rooftop, with his binoculars. One day, he gets hit by the ball and gets injured in the process, making the members of the Tennis Club think of him as the "peeping tom". As he was discovered by the beautiful **Yuki Kurokawa**, a member of the tennis club, he gave her his side of the story. Seeing as how he sincerely likes her, Yuki decides to help him out with getting to her captain. But when things don't go as planned, Seiji suddenly finds his heart swerving to another direction...

With the title derived from the usual "good endings" found in visual novels, it's pretty safe to assume that the manga is going to be one big mix of varying emotions, from happiness to sadness, from love to heartbreak, and whatever is in between. With very realistic scenarios, it's pretty easy for readers to relate to the manga and its many characters on certain points.

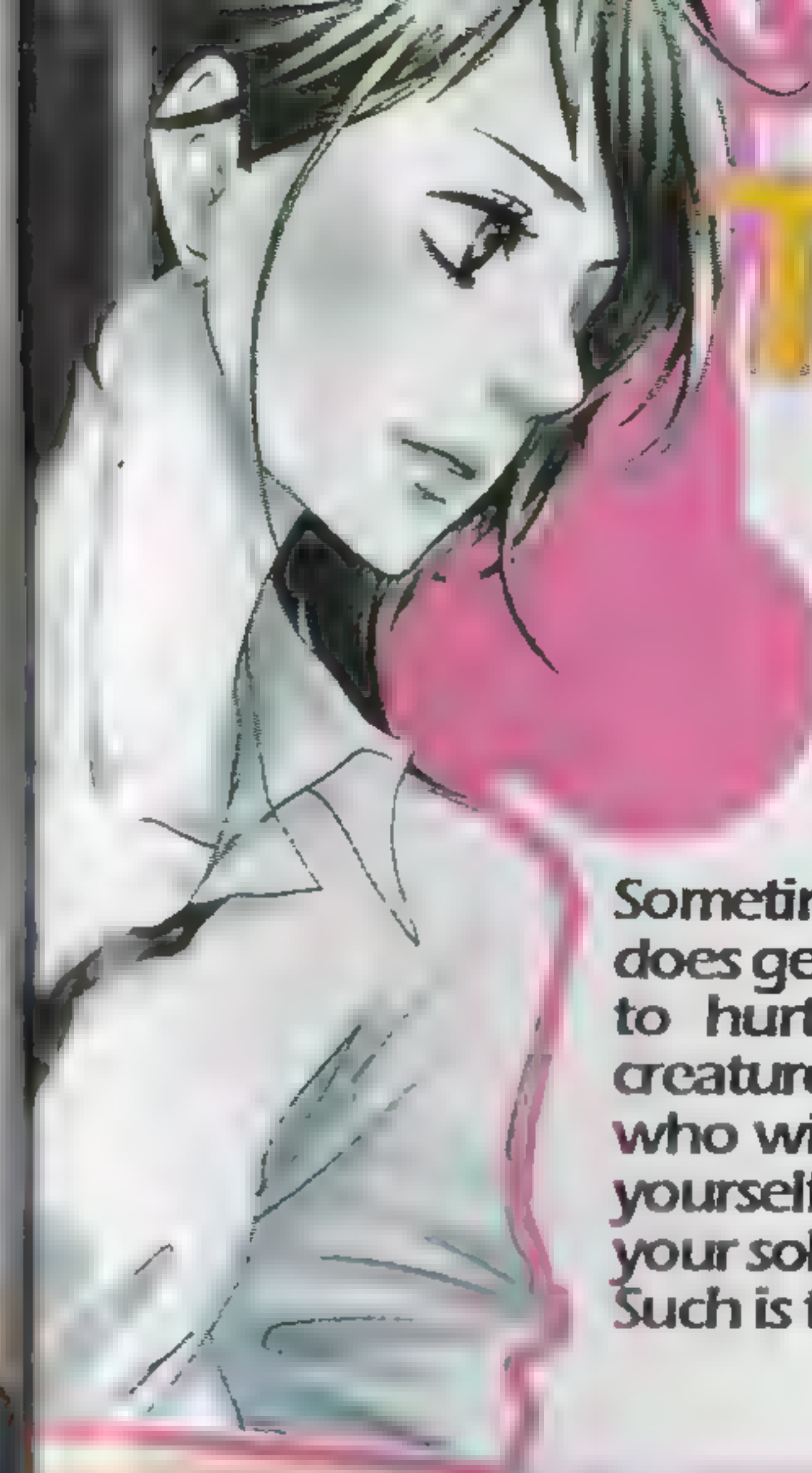
So, will Seiji get that seemingly oh-so-elusive "good ending"? You'll have to read from start to finish to find out.



MANGA

# Three Words (Suki tte li Na Yo)

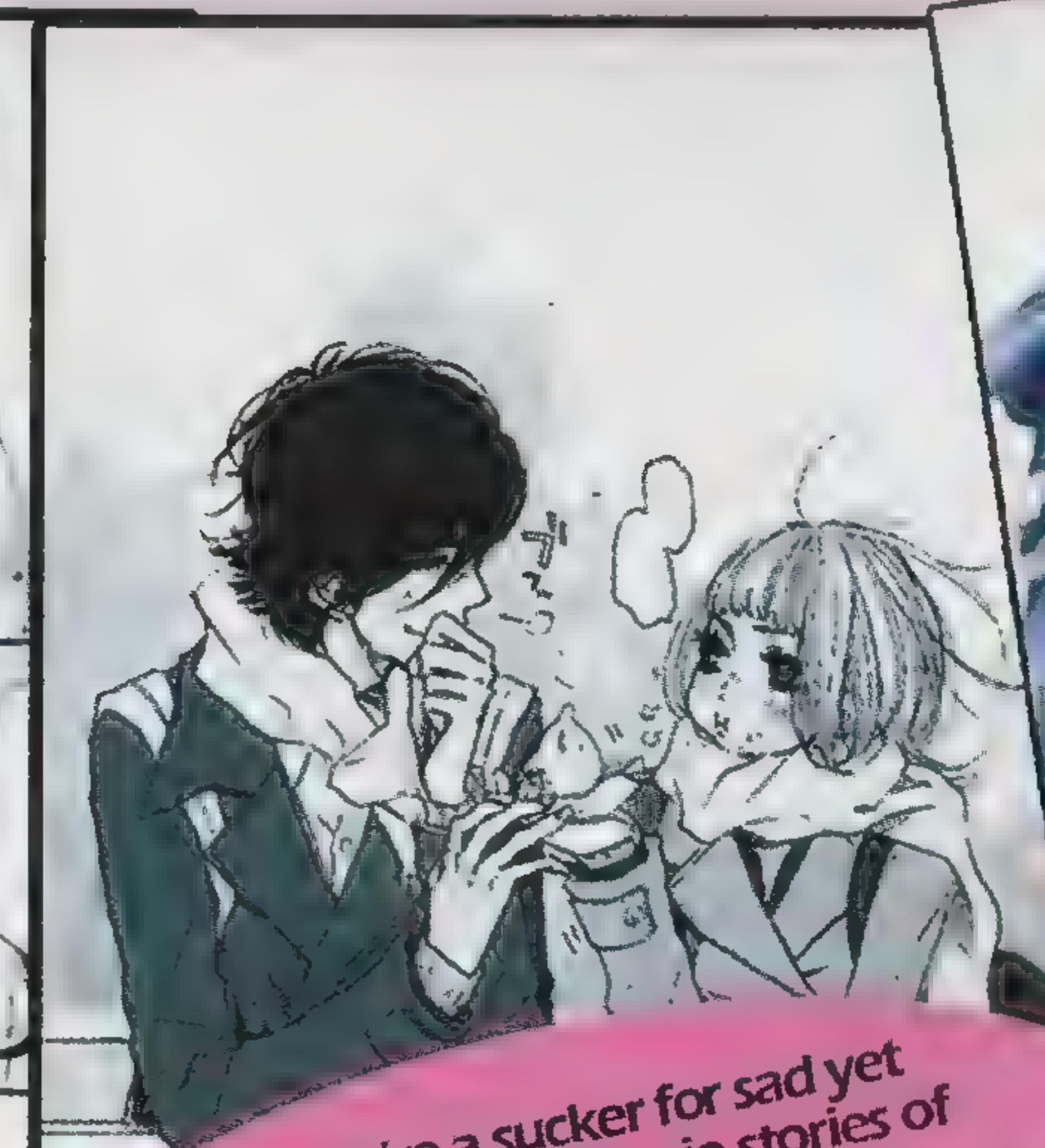
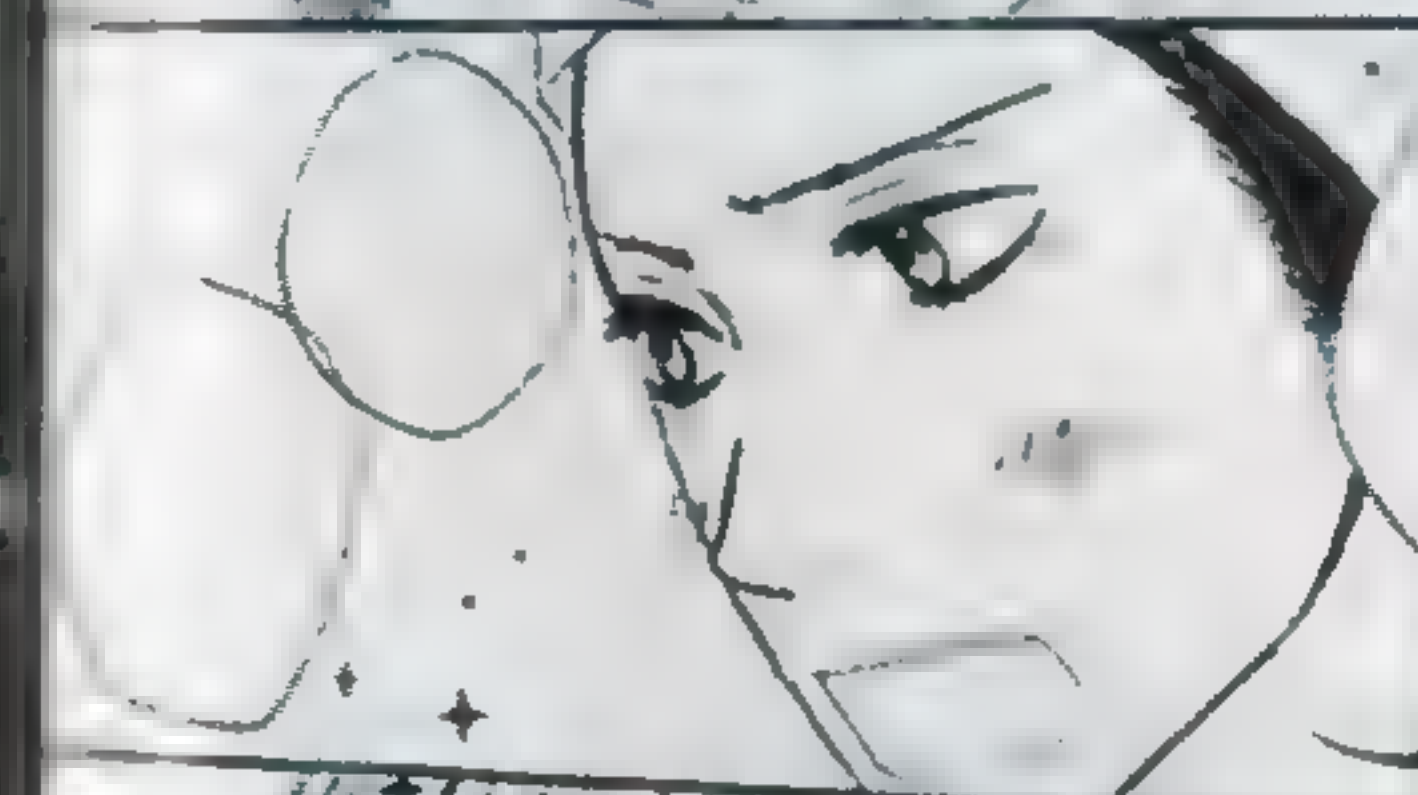
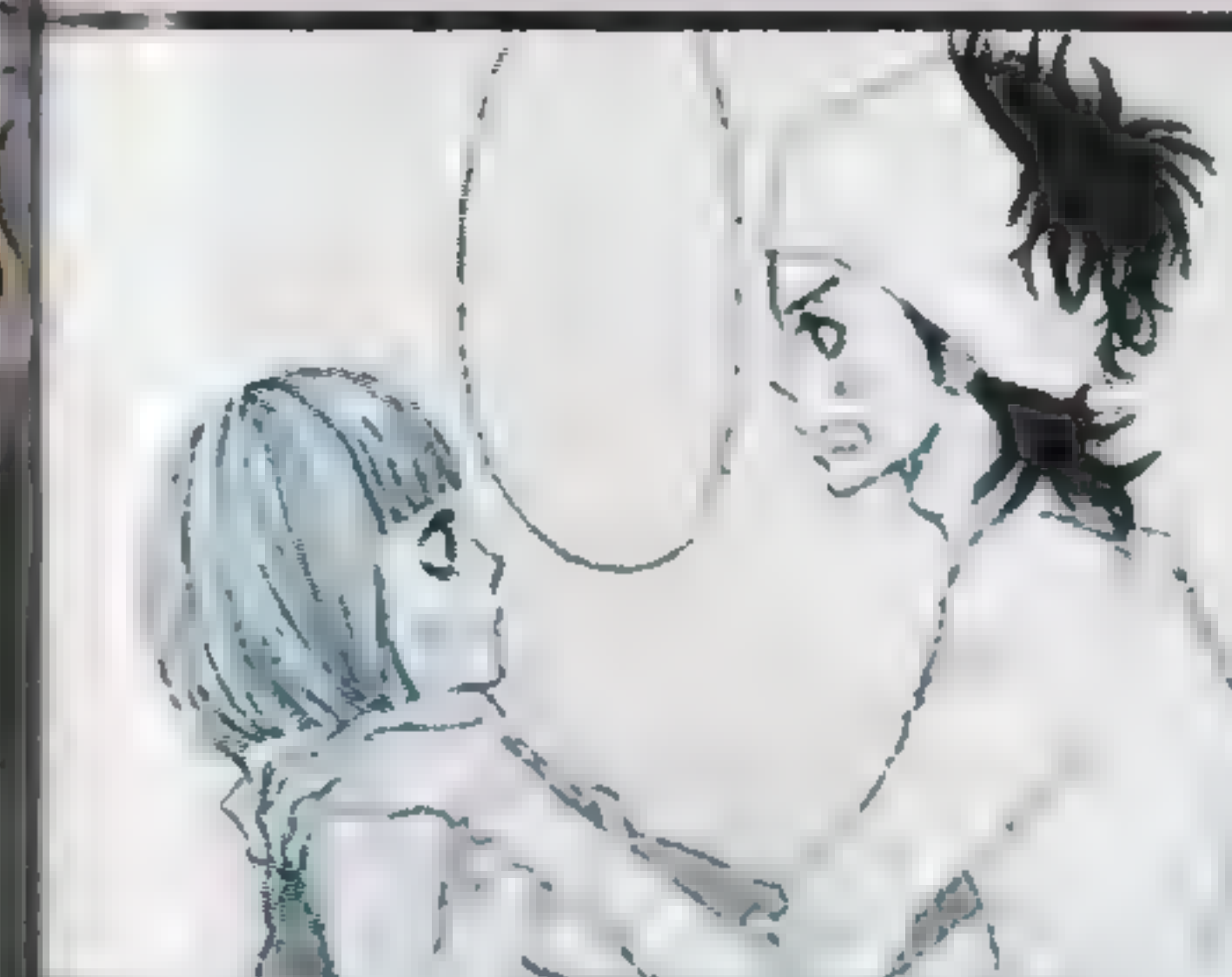
By: James Young Bayot



Sometimes it's easier to be alone. Although it does get lonely at times, there won't be anyone to hurt you. But human beings are social creatures, so there will always be one person who will reach out to you even if you seclude yourself. That person will get to you and break your solitude, and all it takes is just three words. Such is the premise of **Suki tte li Na Yo**.



Drawn and written by **Hazuki Kanae**, **Suki tte li Na You** (Say "I Love You" in English) is about **Mei Tachibana**, a girl who didn't have any friends. Always aloof and irritable, she didn't try to make any new ones. Unfortunately, nobody tried to be as well, save **Yamato Kurosawa**, a popular boy in school. One day, Yamato's friend **Nakanishi** tugs on Mei's skirt, and accidentally kicks Yamato instead, as he happens to be beside his friend. Peculiarly, what happened only made Yamato more interested with her, and soon enough he started calling her his friend. And one fateful night, when Mei gets stalked by a creepy customer from the pastry shop she works in, she calls Yamato to help her, who in turn drives away the stalker by telling Mei that he loves her and then kissing her afterwards. Now Mei doesn't know if he likes her for real or if everything was just an act. She doesn't know if she's going to let him in his life.



If you're a sucker for sad yet heartwarming shoujo stories of love, then you'll love this bittersweet love story that is definitely leaning more towards the sweet side.





The **Death Weapon Meister Academy** or **DWMA** in short, is a school for training humans with the ability to transform into weapons and the meisters who wield them. Students partake in either the "EAT" class, where they train to become warriors, or the "NOT" class, where they train to control their powers. **Tsugumi Harudori** is a halberd demon weapon from Japan taking the "NOT" class along with two meisters, **Meme Tatane** and **Anya Hepburn**. As Tsugumi spend her daily life in the DWMA NOT class, will she ever find both a partner and confidence in her abilities?

**Soul Eater Not!** is an on-going shounen manga by **Atsushi Ookubo** as a spinoff of **Soul Eater**. The manga's serialization in **Monthly Shounen Gangan** began on January 2011 and spanned three tankoubon volumes as of December 2013. **Chiaki Omigawa**, the voice actress behind Maka Albarn, announced on her "Yurutto Fuwatto" radio station last November that an anime adaptation for **Soul Eater Not!** has been confirmed and will be animated by **BONES**.

The story takes place prior to the events of the **Soul Eater**. **Not!** is basically about three girls training in the **NOT** class so that they'll be able to use their powers without being a potential threat to others. Even though the series focuses on the girls and their daily lives in **DWMA**, majority of the original characters will make a brief appearance and somehow interact with them. It may not be as action-packed as the main series, but **Soul Eater Not!**'s charm lies on its light-hearted atmosphere that will make you feel warm and fuzzy as you read the following chapters.

For those who aren't familiar with **Soul Eater**, it is highly recommended to read it first before the spinoff series.

# Life with Mushi

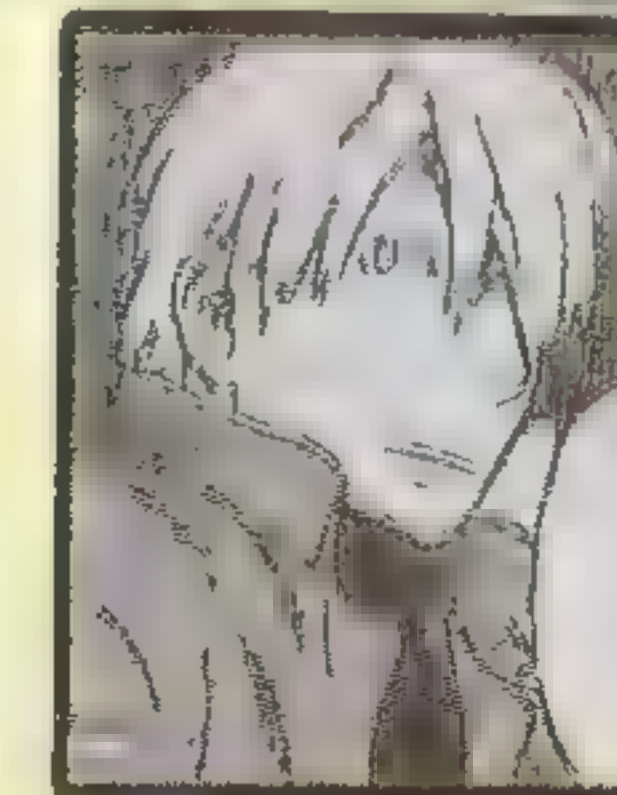
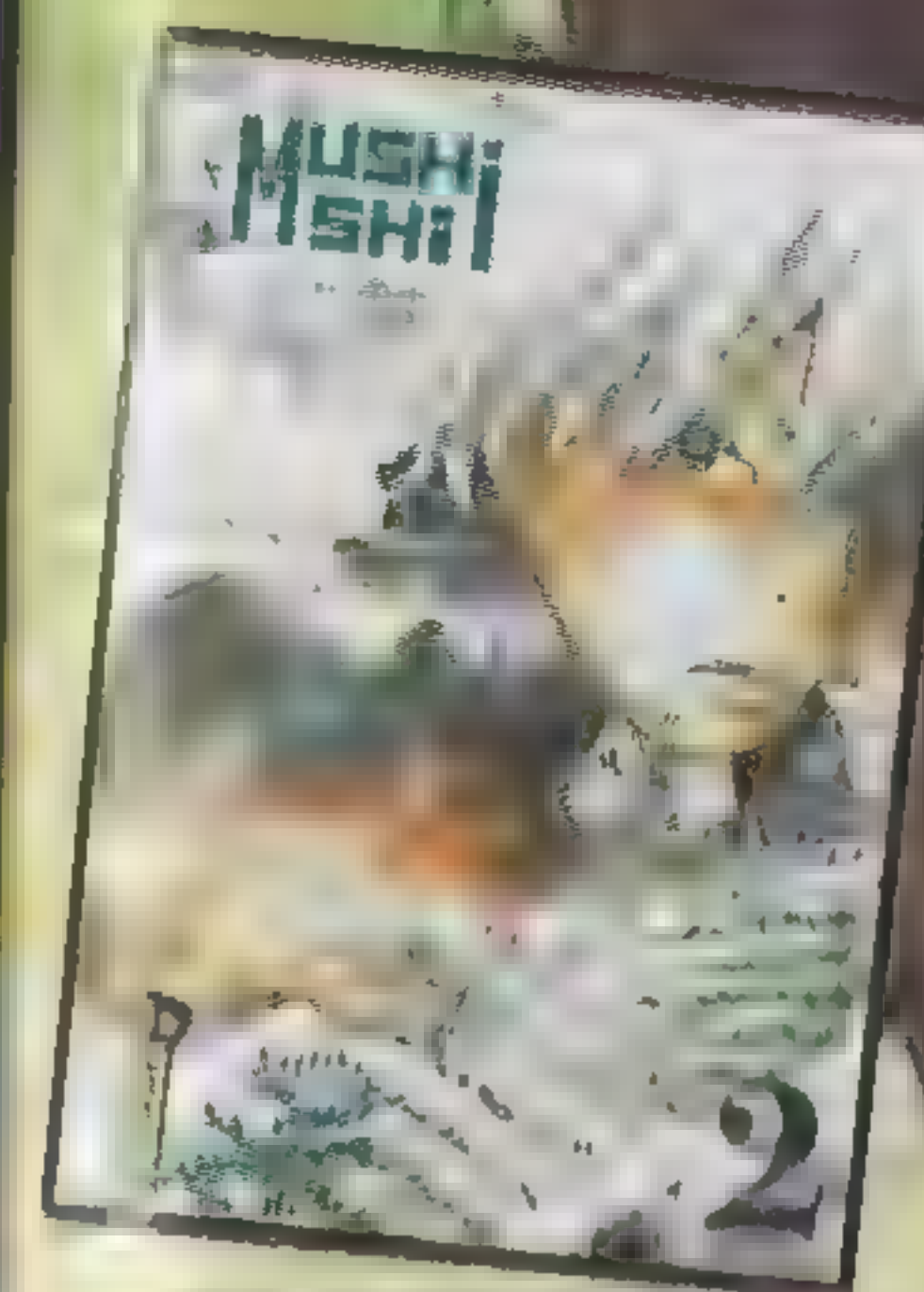
by Kei

"Mushi"

— a magical creature described as life in its purest form.

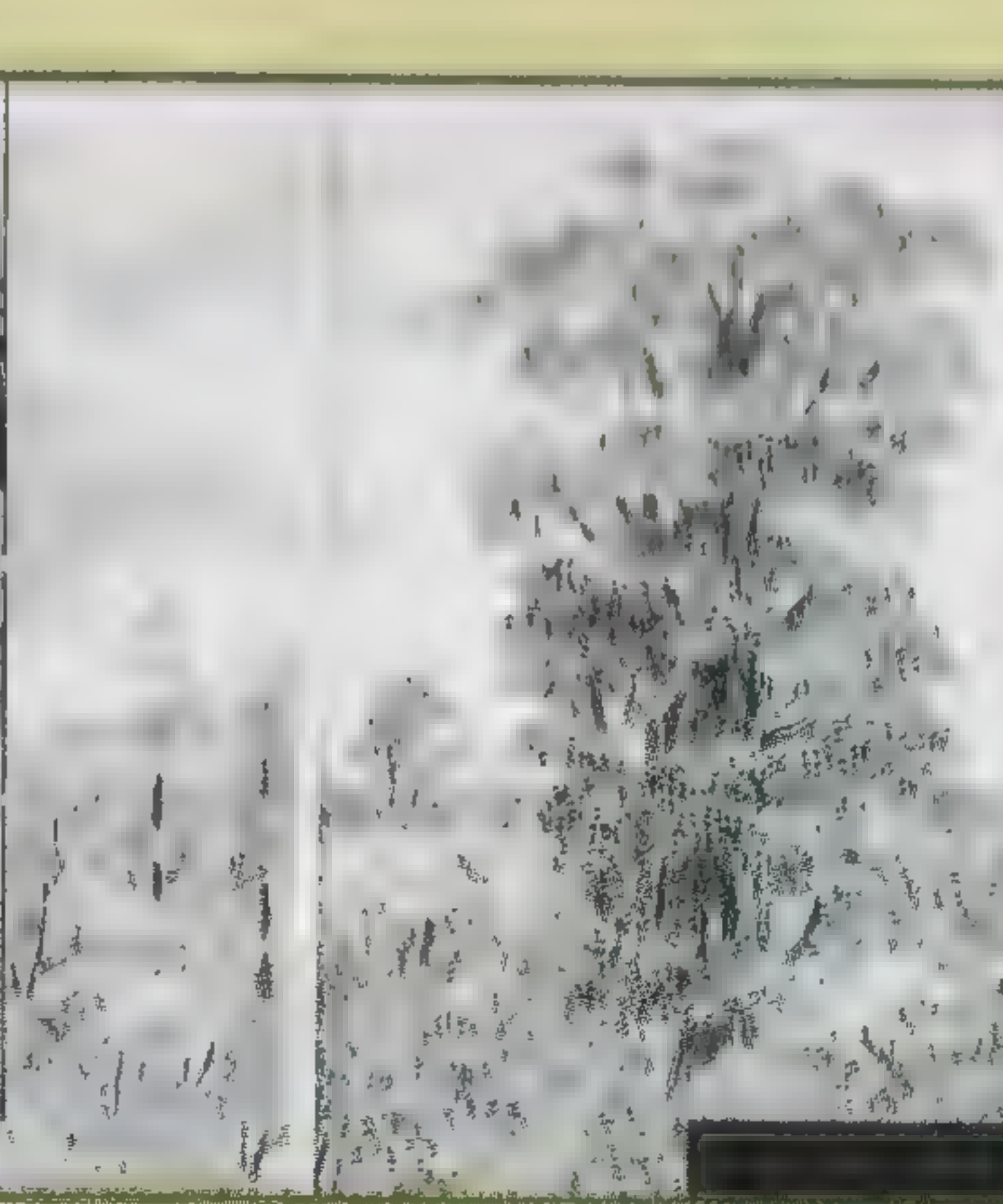
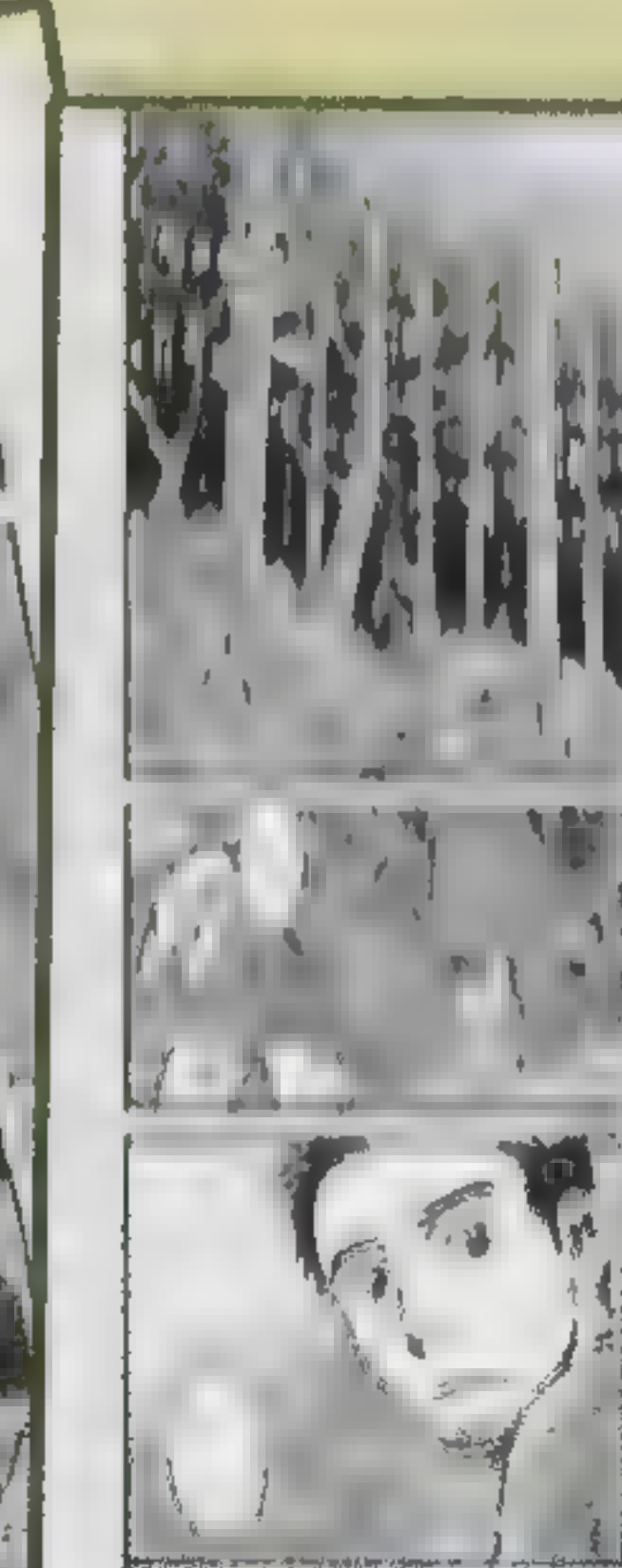
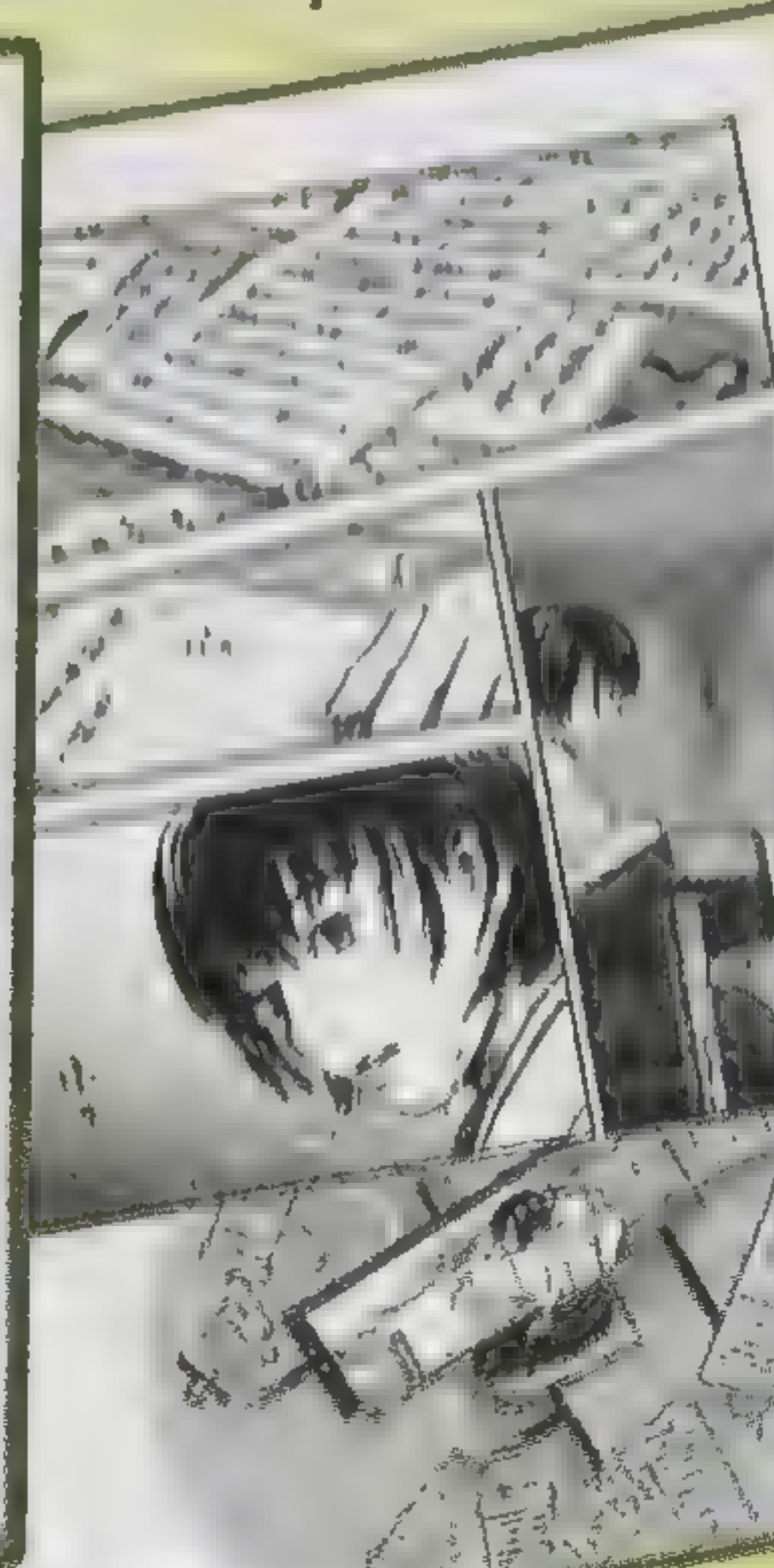
In Japan, these creatures settle in quiet, rural areas and only a limited number of humans can see them. As they depend on either the forest or human life to live, these creatures often clash with the lives of ordinary People, bringing harm or giving birth to strange abilities. When a mushi has already caused trouble that no human can control, that's the cue for people called the "**Mushishi**" to step in. **Mushishi** are specialists who bring cure to those that are bothered by them and enlightening them of their true nature.

**Mushishi** is a manga series written and illustrated by **Yuki Urushibara**, published in **Kodansha's Afternoon** magazine from 1999 to August 2008. The manga has 10 volumes, and roughly 50 chapters won an **Excellence Prize** at the 2003 **Japan Media Arts Festival** and the 2006 **Kodansha Manga Award**. **Mushishi** was also adapted into an anime series in 2005, completing 26 episodes and into a live action movie that premiered on March 24, 2007.



The story centers around a **Mushishi** named **Ginko**. He's a wanderer who solves cases involving the mushi. **Ginko** appears to be very serious, but treats both humans and mushi with respect. **Ginko** never stays at one place too long because his strong presence is attracting the mushi, which may cause more trouble than what he had already fixed.

**Mushishi** gives out a calm yet alluring ambiance. Stories are told in a unique pattern throughout the series. Each tale ends with different conclusions; some were sad, some were happy, and some gives one a feeling of content. Reading or watching **Mushishi** is similar to having a grand tour of medieval Japan while learning a lesson about the different aspects of life.





# FUTURE CARD BUDDYFIGHT

## Next-Gen Monster Action!

written by: John Robert Lim

Have you ever thought of a world beyond our Earth? A dimension filled with fantasy creatures such as dragons, beasts, aliens, and demons. When they find their way to Earth and come in contact with humans, what should we do? Become "buddies" and fight beside them, of course! That is what Future Card Buddyfight is all about!

In the not-so-future Japan, the game "Buddyfight" has become a nationwide craze. Gao Mikado is your normal, enthusiastic boy with a background in martial arts, thanks to his mom and he helps other people as the "Sun Fighter". He has to deal with one problem though; he is not good in Buddyfight. While not being good with the game, he looked up to Tasuku Ryuenji who is a member of the crime-fighting organization "Buddy Police". This mundane life of his would soon change one fateful day, when he met Drum Bunker Dragon. After an argument, the dragon agreed to become his partner, and that marked the start of their adventure as buddies.



Future Card Buddyfight is a series that started airing last January 4. The manga's serialization came even earlier, all the way back to November 2013. That surely speaks a lot about the series gaining momentum in popularity, being adapted just two months after serialization. The opening theme "Card of the Future" will involve Psychic Lover, who is not exactly strangers to trading card anime themes, having done songs for Yu-Gi-Oh and Cardfight!! Vanguard. As expected, merchandise for the show will soon be released, with the card game and other products having a late-January launch.

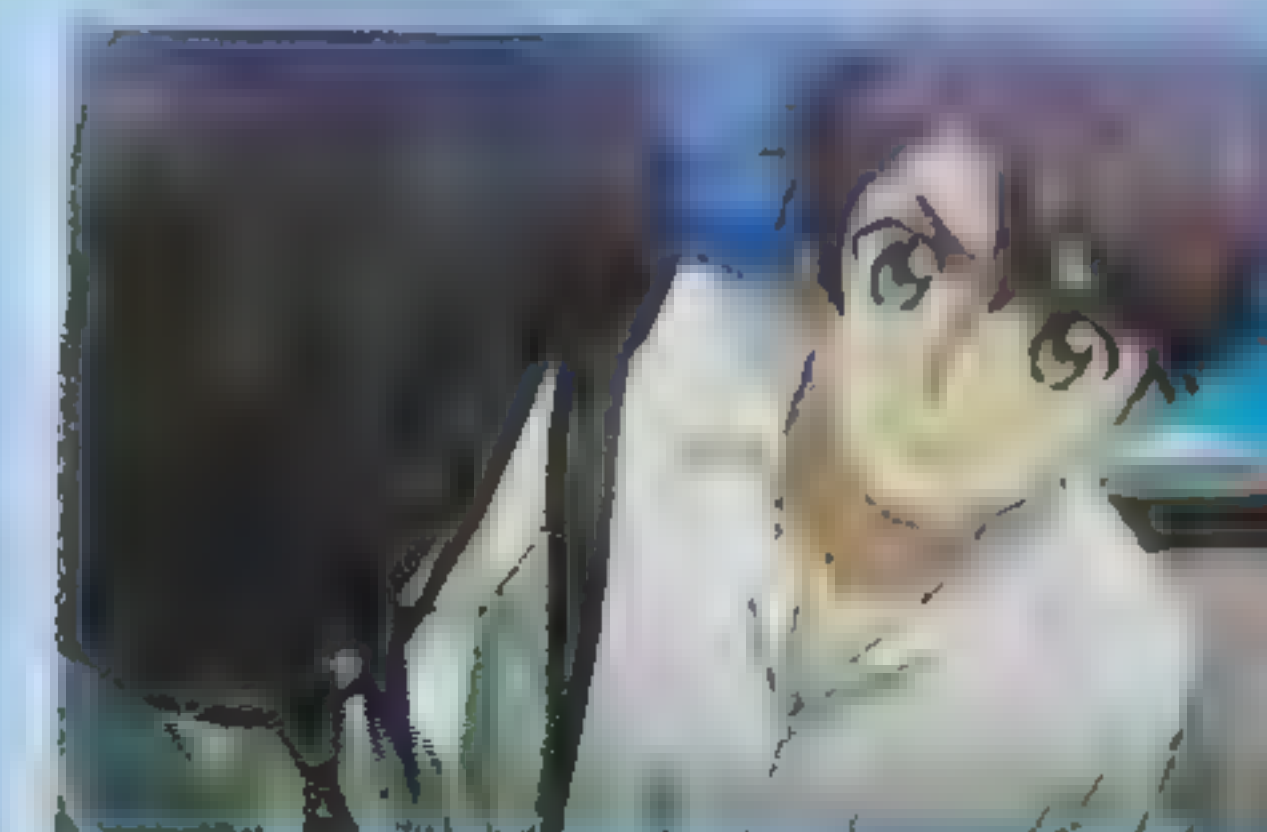
Being an anime adaptation of a monster card game, expect lots of the actual game's mechanics to be integrated into the show. That means a healthy dose of monster battling to keep viewers glued to their seats. Another thing going on with this show is Gao and Drum Bunker Dragon's growth together as buddies. Will their partnership be the start of a new saga in the world of Buddyfight? Stay tuned to find out!

# バディコンプレックス BUDDY COMPLEX

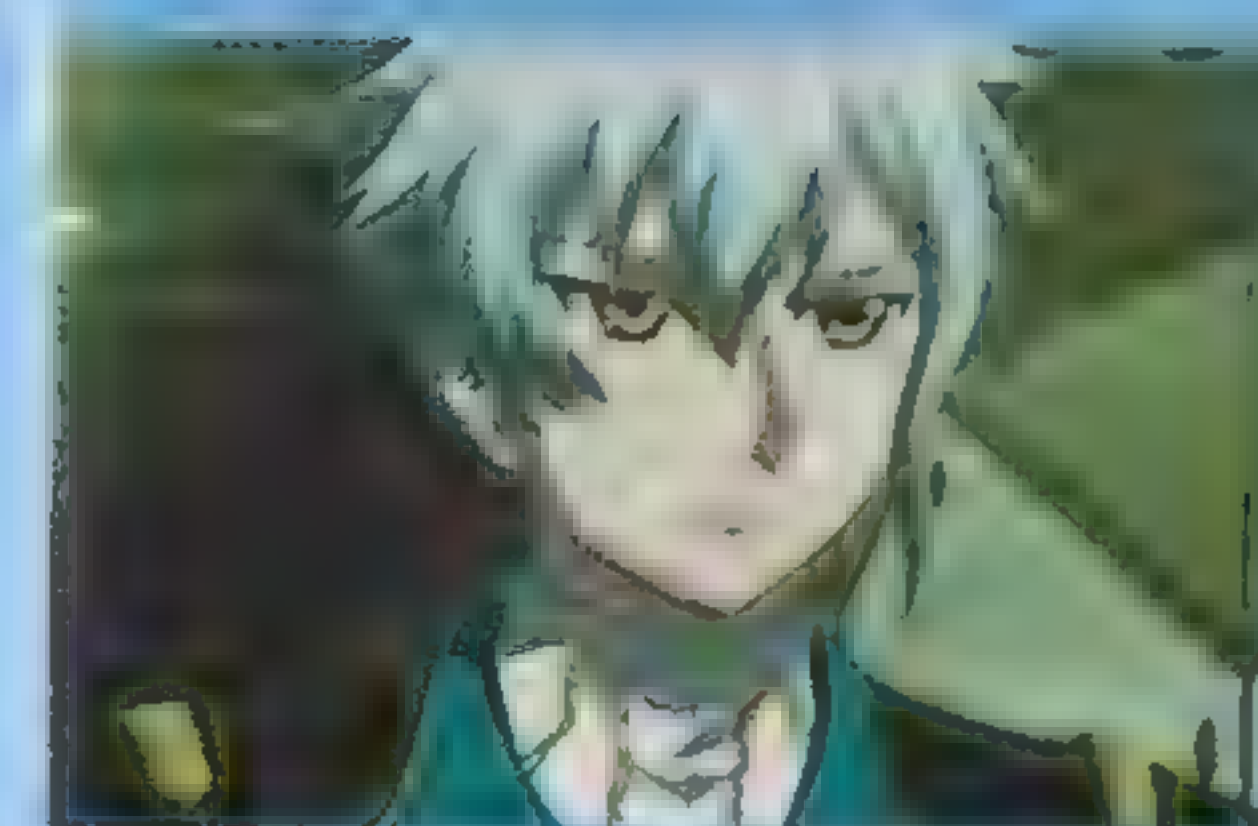
## NICE COUPLING!

written by: Mikelle

Aoba Watase was a normal high school student until a mysterious mecha of unknown origin launched an all-out surprise attack to execute him. Aoba doesn't have the slightest idea why he's being targeted, but he can tell that the mecha's pilot wants his head. That was the cue for Hina Yumihara, a beautiful transfer student who always gets nervous around Aoba, to step in the fray and save him. After the skirmish ended with Hina's victory, she told him that she came from the same future as his attacker, much to Aoba's surprise.



Follow Aoba Watase, a normal student-turned-Valiancer pilot, as he tries to search for answers regarding his relation to the events that are about to take place in an era of mechanized warfare.



Buddy Complex revolves around the friendship and coming-of-age of Aoba Watase, a normal high school boy who was unwittingly thrown into the future, and Dio Weinberg, a soldier affiliated with the Confederate Treaty of Liberty. Their mecha units called "Valiancers" use a unique system where two pilots share their knowledge and abilities in battle by coupling. Once the pilots are in the state of coupling, their battle prowess skyrockets, making their Valiancers a formidable foe in the battlefield. In Aoba's case, his first few couplings with Dio is a way for him to learn how to pilot a Valiancer to make up for his inexperience.

The first episode left too many questions at once for the viewers to understand the gist of the plot. It's like Buddy Complex intends to make its viewers scratch their heads and wonder what's going on, but slowly reveals one mystery after another as the series progresses. But despite that, the fast-paced mecha battles and character development is another thing to look forward to in this series.



# BROTHER?

by: Pam Ola

Some people will never understand the feeling of having a big sister. She will be there whenever you need her. She will fight with you. She will take time to listen to your problems. She will annoy you.

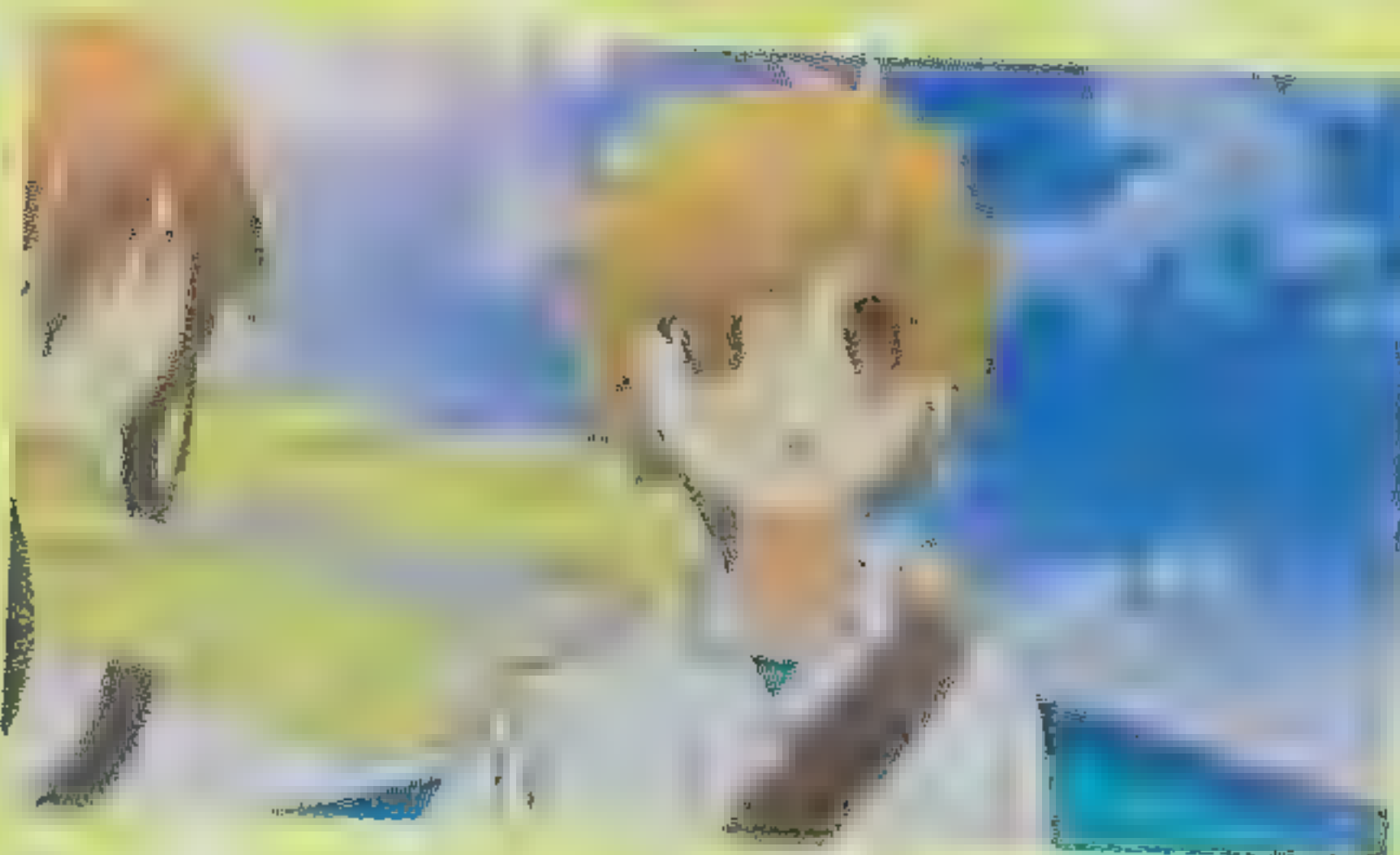
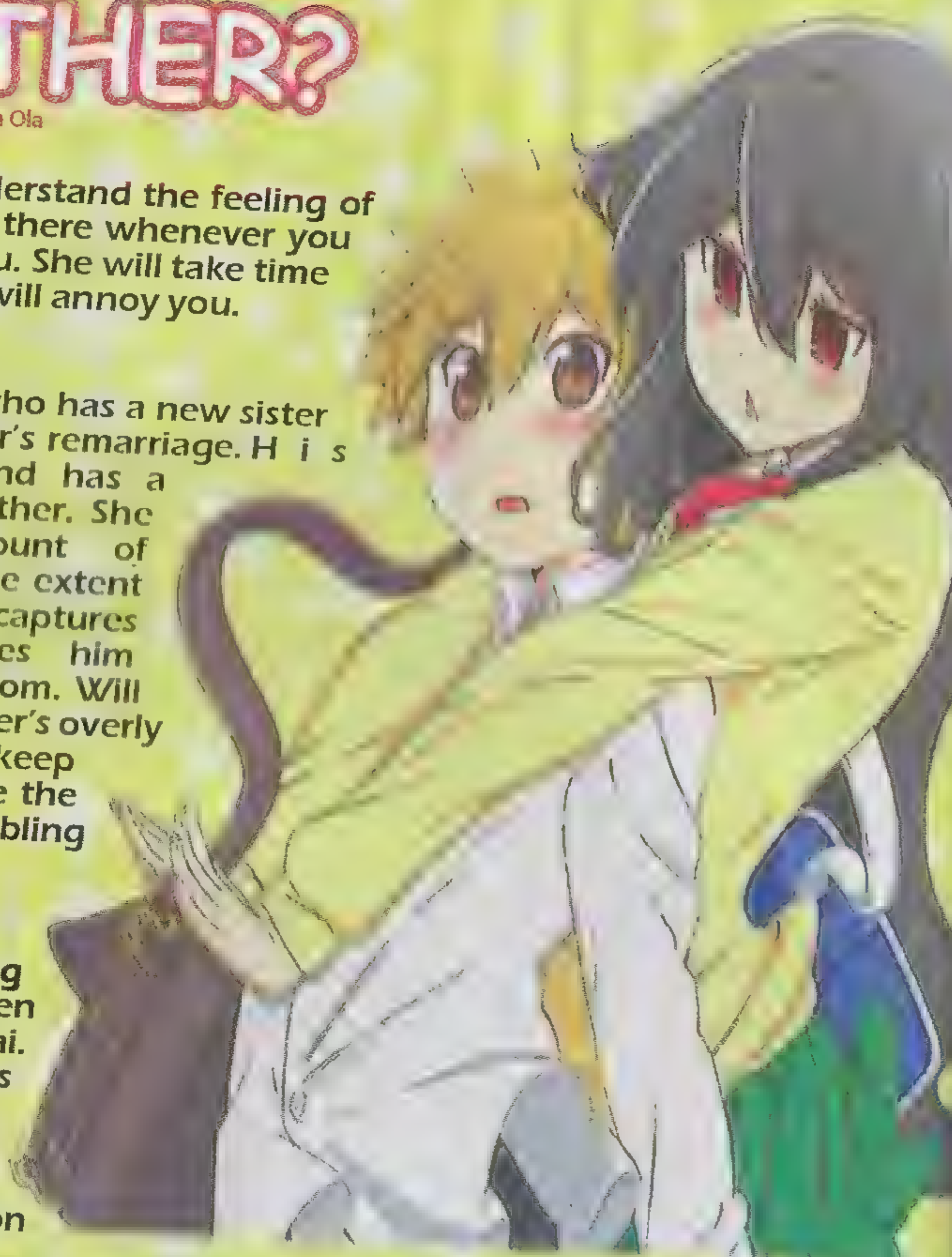
Tomoya Mizuhara is a boy who has a new sister named Ichika through his father's remarriage. His step-sister is 4 years older and has a tendency to stalk her little brother. She has an overwhelming amount of affection towards Tomoya to the extent of being somewhat creepy. She captures his every movement, watches him intensely and sneaks into his room. Will Tomoya be able to survive his sister's overly love attachment? Can she keep Tomoya for herself? Or will it be the new development of a sibling relationship?

Onecchan Ga kita or My Big Sister Arrived is a comedy, seinen and slice of life series by Riko Anzai. It is serialized in Takeshobo's seinen manga magazine Manga Life as well as sister magazine Manga Life Momo since July 2011. An anime adaptation

produced by C2C and to be directed by Yoshihide Yuuzumi (Star Driver, Baka to Test - Summon the Beasts 2). Airi Terakawa lends his voice to Tomoya Mizuhara. Big sister Ichika Mizuhara's voice actress is Juri Nagatsuma. Her best friends, Ruri Hayasaka's voice is provided by Minami Omi (Euphemia Li Britannia, Code Geass: Lelouch of the Rebellion) and Marina Mochizuki's voice actress, Marina Inoue (Kyoko Mogami, Skip Beat!).

This short 3 minute comedy started January 8. With colorful backgrounds and smooth animation, it depicts the daily life of a 13-yr old struggling to keep his new older sister away from him. Ichika is determined to be at his side at all times. She has pictures, dolls, plushies and everything of Tomoya. She has done her research even before she and her mother moved into the family.

Join Tomoya experience his crazy daily life with his big sister. This anime will surely make your cry out of laughter.



# SISTER?

by: Pam Ola

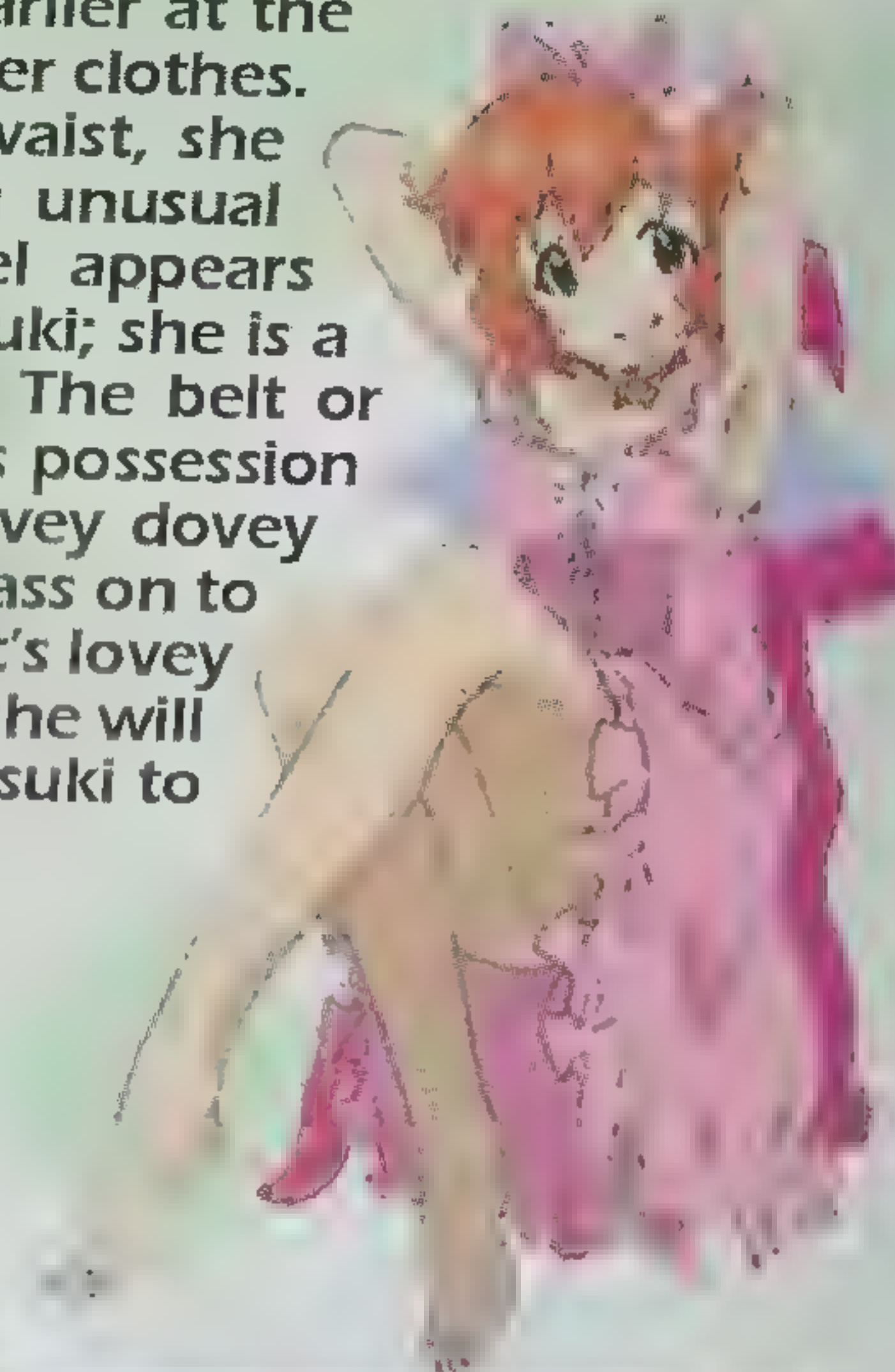
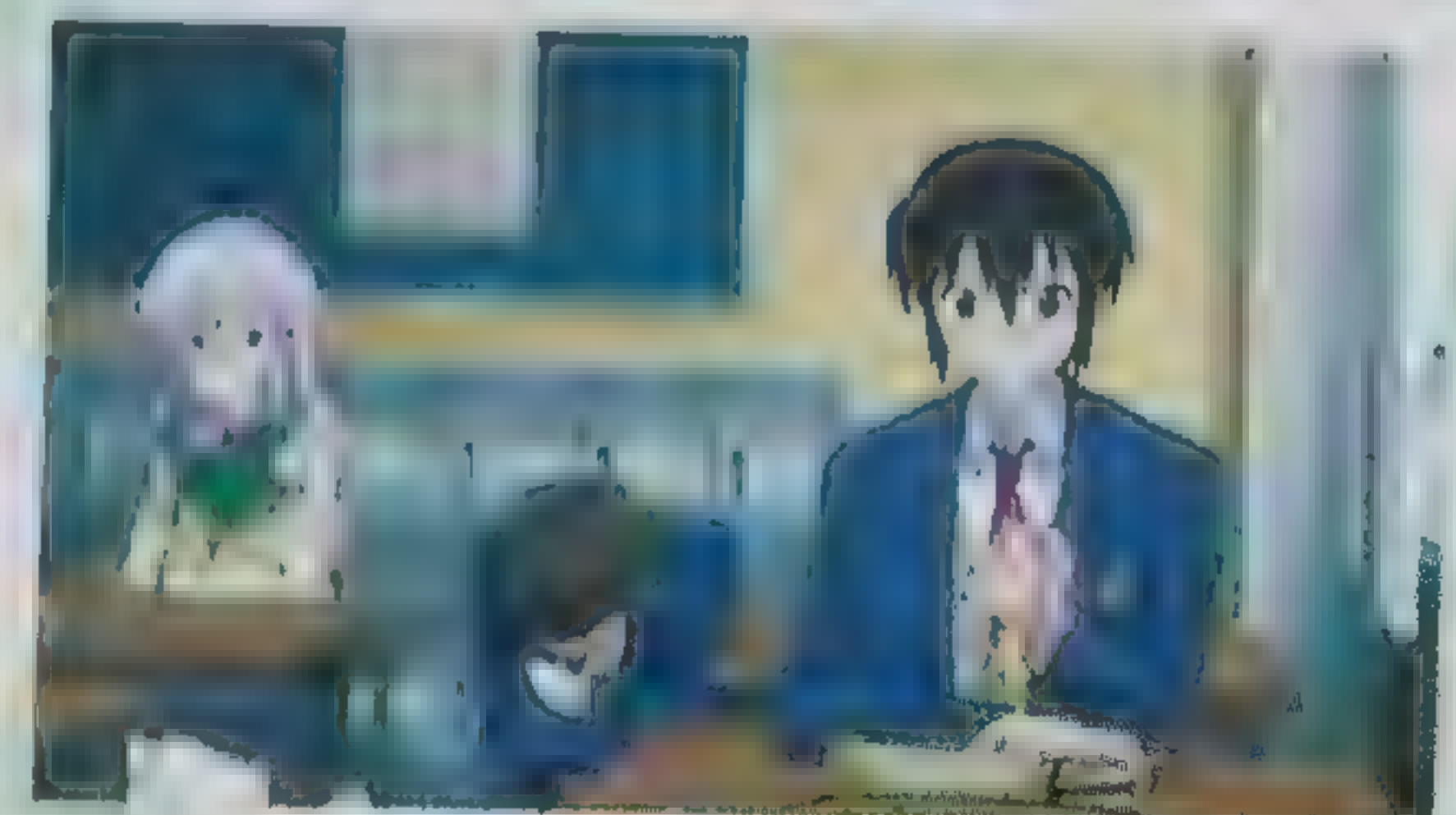
A high school girl named Mitsuki Kanzaki is living with her step-brother Yuuya. Feeling abandoned by her mother, who left for an overseas job in India, she stays distant to her brother. Until one day, she falls down from a bridge and Yuuya saves her life. She wakes up at the hospital. Upon gazing at her brother she suddenly hug him and intimately calling him "oniiichan". After realizing on what she has done, she kicked him out of embarrassment.

Puzzled on what happened earlier at the hospital, she decided to change her clothes. As she felt tightness upon her waist, she was surprise to see her wearing unusual belted underwear. Then, an angel appears and reveals herself as Hiyori Kotobuki; she is a ghost who is in love with Yuuya. The belt or chastity belt is the proof of Hiyori's possession to Mitsuki that she needs to be lovey dovey with her brother, so that she can pass on to the Gates of Heaven. When the belt's lovey dovey meter is not being filling up, she will die. This sudden change causes Mitsuki to play along with the naughty ghost.

Who is this ghost?  
Will she have a development  
towards her brother?  
Can she still be a sister to him or  
something else?

Saikin, Imoto no Yosu ga Chotto Okaishiin Da Ga or translated as Recently, My Sister is Unusual also known as "ImoCho" is a Japanese manga series by Mari Matsuzawa (Hinadori Girl, Inukami!), serialized in Fujimi Shobo's Monthly Dragon Age since November, 2010. It is comedy, ecchi, romance, shounen, supernatural anime produced by Project No. 9. Chinami Hashimoto, a rookie voice actress will provide Mitsuki Kanzaki's voice. Her naughty angel, Hiyori Kotobuki will be voice by Yui Ogura who also provided the anime's ending theme Charming Do! Majima Junji will provide Yuuya Kanzaki's voice. Lastly, Yukina Kiritani's voiced will be provided by Hisako Kanemoto.

It's up to Mitsuki to help this naughty ghost to pass on. This humorous anime will let you have the laugh of how Hiyori leads Mitsuki in to her crazy antics. You will surely want to watch ImoCho and find out what will happen to Mitsuki and Hiyori's lovey dovey plan to capture Yuuya's heart.





## HISTORY'S GREATEST FOOL

Two planets are bound by the "Dragon Pulse" spanning the heavens. The western planet has become the first to obtain the Dragon's Breath and is on the verge of unity under a single ruler. On the other hand, the eastern planet is still engulfed in the flames of war, divided into many nations with warlords seeking dominance over one another. Only the return of the super technology known as "sacred treasures" could revolutionize the world, but no one knows of them except one person—a heretic.

Jeanne is a girl from the western planet who saw visions of the birth of the "Star Messiah" who will save the world. With Leonardo Da Vinci's aid, she went on a journey to the eastern star to meet the man from her visions even at the cost of their loyalty to King Arthur. Upon crash landing in the small country of Owari, Jeanne and Da Vinci came across the greatest fool of the day, Nobunaga Oda.

Does the Fool of Owari have what it takes to lead an army and become the Star Messiah?

Nobunaga the Fool is an on-going anime series by Satelight. It began airing on January 5 and is scheduled to have a total of 24 episodes. A Japanese stage play of the same name is a combination of live actors and animation performed last December 2013.

Nobunaga the Fool offers a brand new Sengoku era with a twist of mecha battles that greatly turns the tide of war in their favor. Adding this to your watch list is inevitable.

The anime series uses various historical figures from different timelines as the characters in the story and recreates history in a futuristic setting. Each character has both traditional and modern traits in their fashion design in respect to the genre of the series. What made Nobunaga the Fool different from other series based on the Sengoku era is the inclusion of western legends like Jeanne d'Arc and King Arthur in the same universe. There is also a hint romance in the series, but in the form of a love-triangle between Nobunaga, Jeanne (renamed as Ranmaru), and Queen Himiko of Yamatai.

## 1 Wish = 5 Yen

The Near Shore is the land where the living resides, while the Far Shore is the realm wherein gods and spirits dwell. What would occur when a certain individual lingers on the border of such worlds? Figure out more about this mystery as well as the encounter of a human and a god in the uncanny world of Noragami.

Noragami's story revolves around a penniless deity without a shrine named Yato. Though he has no followers or believers, Yato dreams to make it big by doing things one step at a time. He goes as far as being a jack of all trade who would take on any job for only 5 yen. Aside from living as a bum, everything was fine and dandy until the gears of fate started to turn after his encounter with a high school girl called Hiyori.

Due a life threatening incident, Hiyori was suddenly thrust into the world of anomalies and paranormals as she gained the ability to project her soul outside her body. Without much of a choice, Hiyori was forced to rely on Yato for turning her back to normal, but before doing so, she must first assist him into becoming a greater god.

Noragami is a fantasy anime which premiered in the Winter Anime season of 2013/14. It is adapted from Adachitoka's manga of the same title that was published and serialized by Kodansha on December 2010. Noragami's anime adaptation is handled by studio Bones which first premiered at Anime Festival Asia 2013. The opening theme "Goya no Machiawase" is performed by Hello Sleepwalkers while the ending theme "Heart Realize" is composed by Supercell and performed by Tia.





OTAFAN

AHN PAN  
Ruby Ann Vega

From Nendoroid Philippines,  
acknowledged by  
Good Smile Company (English),  
myfigurecollection.net,  
Tokyo Otaku Mode  
and Otaku Asia.

Ahnpan started toy  
photography last September  
2012 and has grown and  
grown into one of the well  
known nendo photographer  
of the PH.

She has recently started a  
365 days nendography  
project.

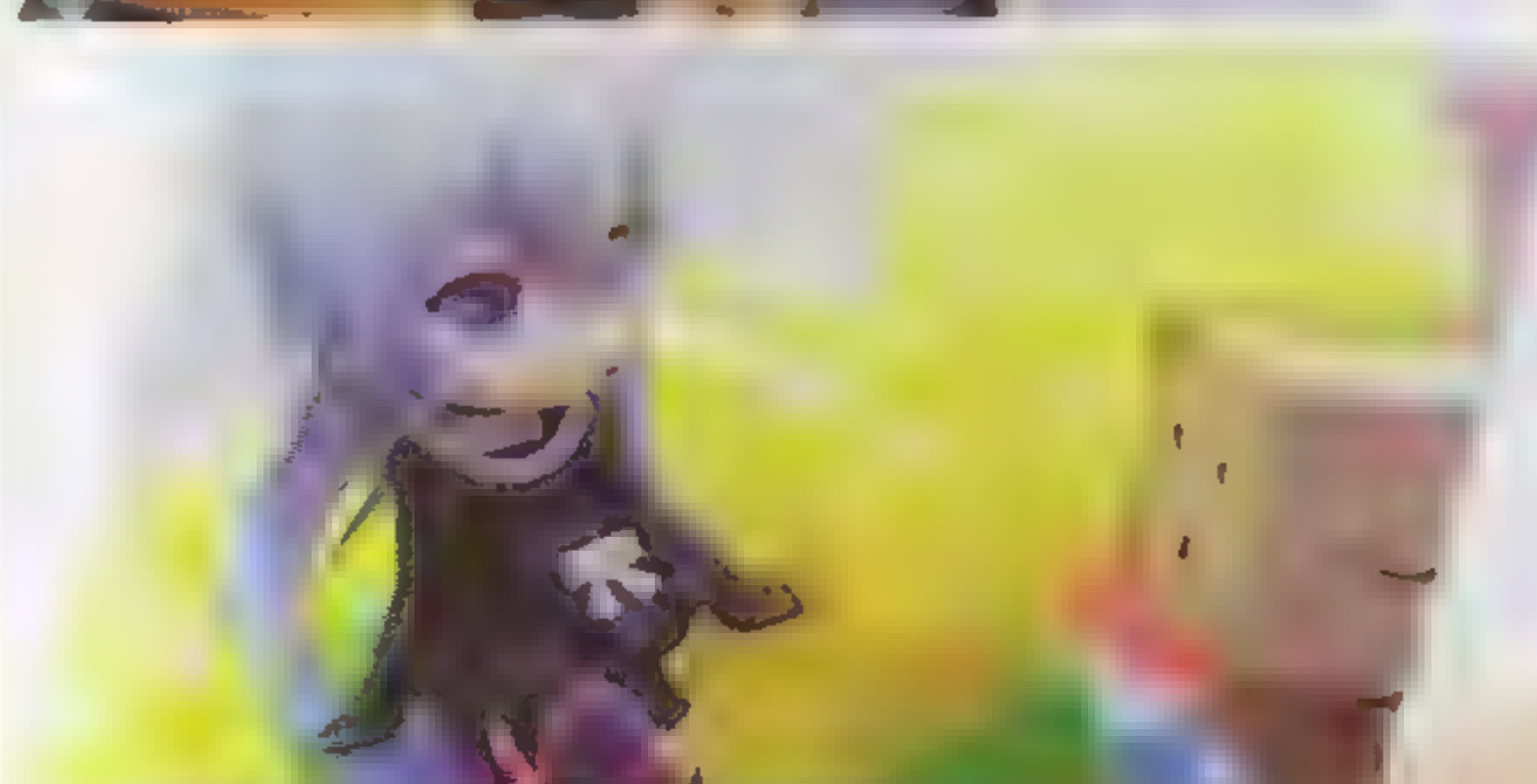
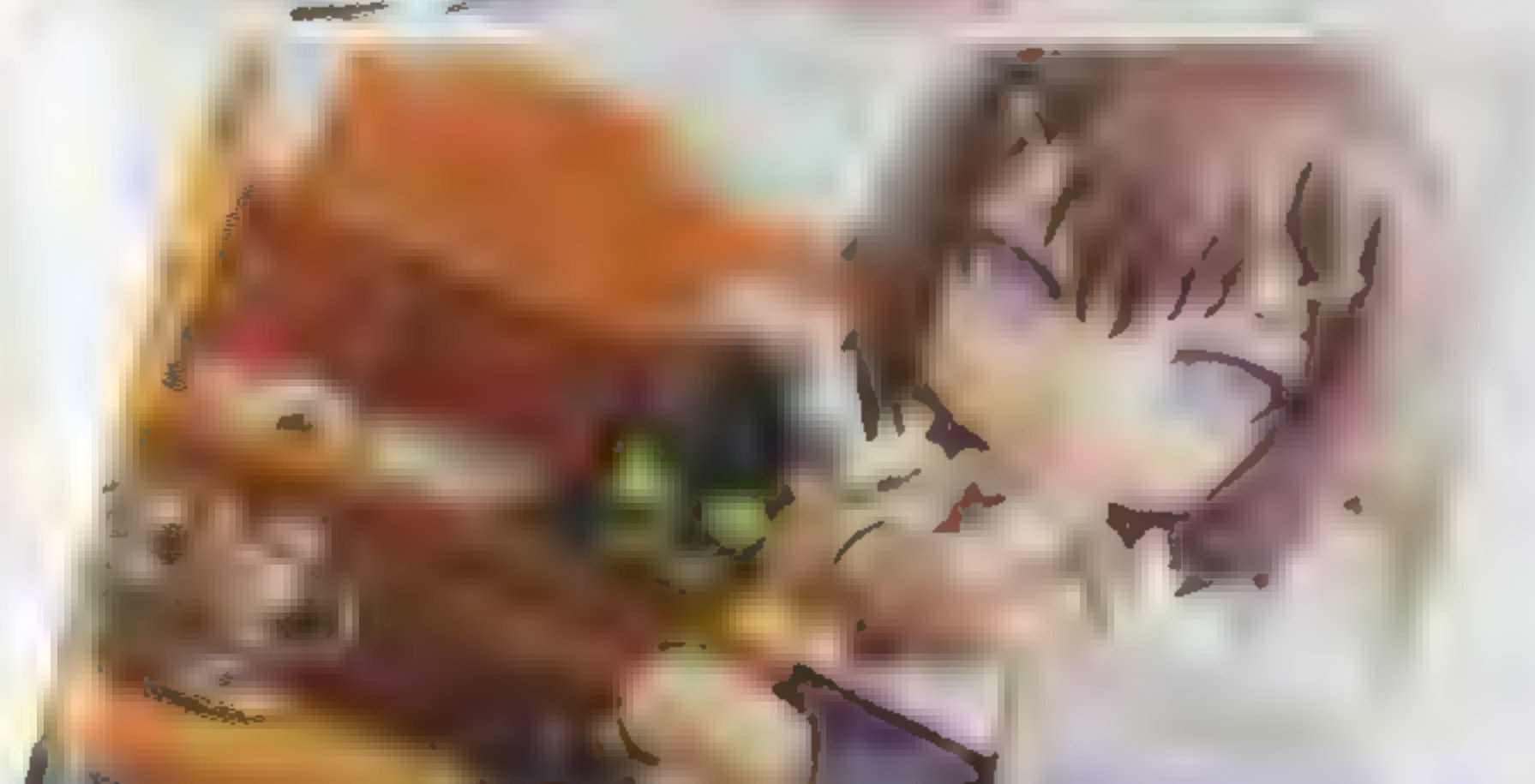
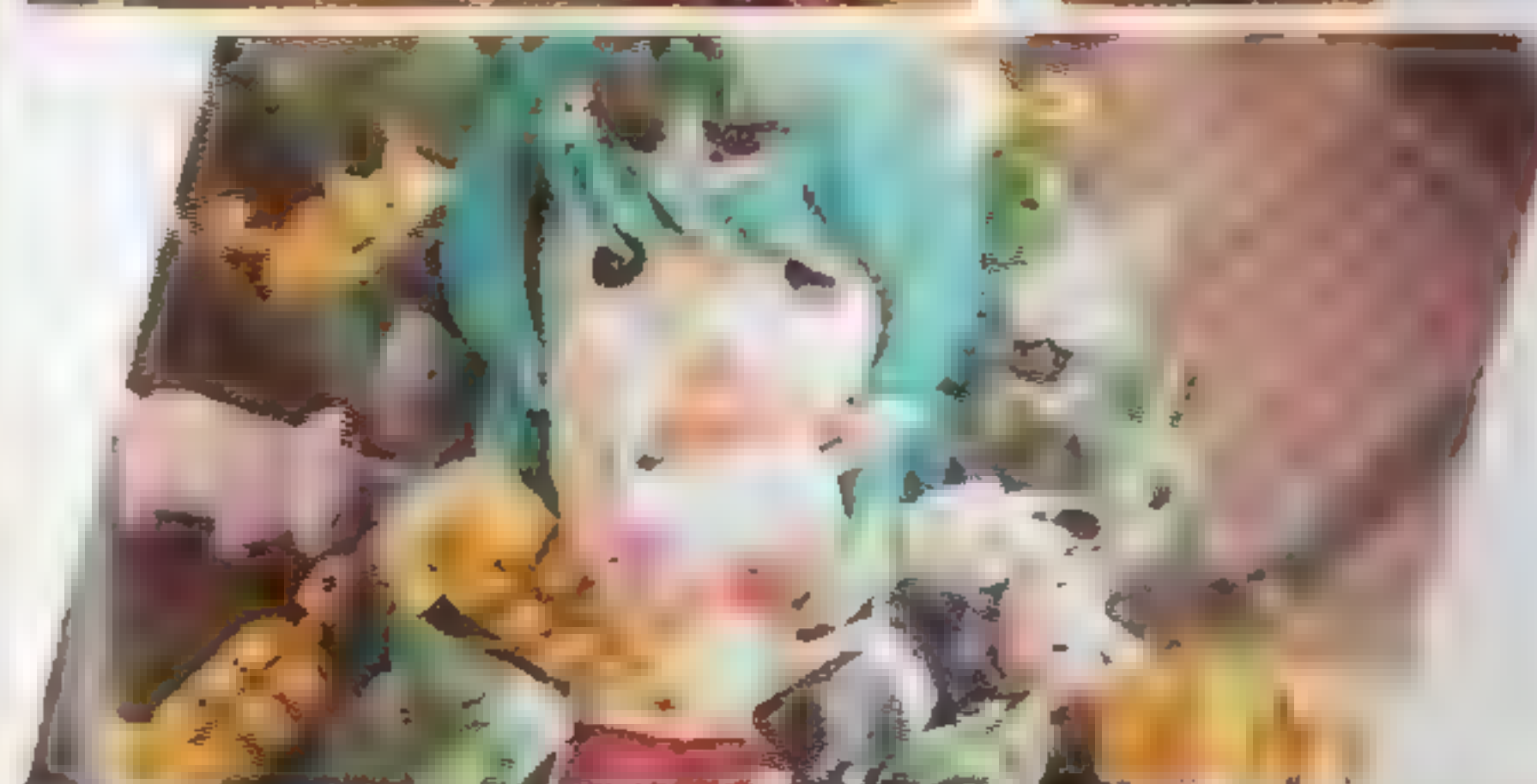


I chose nendoroid  
photography  
because I love  
nendoroids.

Why choose/do nendoroid photography?  
Who/what inspires you?

Let's see... When I got my first nendoroid back in June 2012 I immediately took a LOT of photos of her. I was so enticed by her cuteness that I couldn't help but just press the shutter multiple times at different angles. I couldn't stop clicking! I was so proud of my noob photos that I posted all of them on facebook for my friends to see. Haha! I think that started it all. I wanted to share the cuteness and happiness that my nendoroids brought me.

After that I just kept looking at nendoroid photos online; then I stumbled upon kodomut's blog. His nendoroid photos are superb! I thought to myself, "My nendoroids deserve these kind of photos too!". I started studying photography after that. I want to produce beautiful photos that my nendos deserve because they're expensive little figures and just displaying them would be a waste, in my opinion.



Your favorite character?

My all-time favorite character would be Sakura Kinomoto and Syaoran Li of Card Captor Sakura, my OTP!

Recently, I've found myself liking loli characters too much! Especially Mashiro Mitsuine of Mikakunin de Shinkoukei.

Seriously, go check her out!

Your favorite figma? nendo? modif?

To be honest, I can't pick just one. Haha! It's like asking a mother who among her children is her favorite. I love all of my nendoroids! Some may be cuter than others but they're all cute!!! I suppose if you forced me to pick then it'd be Nendoroid Hakase.. but really my favorite is seasonal! I just love them all! XD

I only have a few figmas but my favorite among them would be figma Anzu Futaba. She's a cute, adorable loli so yeahhh.. that puts her high on my list automatically!

How do you think/visualize the scene?

I rarely plan shoots. Sometimes I just get struck by this idea and voila! I'd do that. I just wing it most of the time. Whenever I get an idea though, I try to think of the elements that I want in the scene first. Do I want a mountain/rock formations? Do I want a simple background? Things like that. Then I gather my materials/find a location and just do it.

Experimentation is key.

If I didn't like the output then I'd tweak either my camera settings or the diorama, place, lighting, or the nendo itself.

What crazy props have you used in your photography?

I frequently use candles as light sources for my photography. I suppose the danger of having my nendos burn before my eyes makes it crazy.

The most elaborate diorama I've done would be for my friend's BRS Beast figma shoot. That took a bit more effort since I had to paint the checked background from scratch, the sculpt the mountain out of foam, put sticks, metal, and other props to make the scene better.

I think my number one technical tip would be to experiment on lighting, especially for indoor shooters like me. There are a lot of toy photographers who limit themselves with just sunlight, and that's fine since the sun provides great light at certain times of the day, but it's also great if you know how to setup for photos indoors too. To be honest, you don't need an expensive camera if you know how to setup your lighting.

In terms of toy photography, my number 1 tip would be to have fun and try to bring your toy to life! Photograph them on weird situations, anything that is life-like. I find that those kinds of photos are most enjoyable to do and have wonderful results.





Do you believe that "beauty is in the eyes of the beholder"?

Meet Reah "Eya" Rodriguez, a normal girl with a huge problem. She believes that she is ugly as compared to most of the girls and is not worthy of scoring a good-looking boyfriend.

Eya's first encounter with Cross Sandford was a meeting that wasn't meant to happen. After a series of insults she received from the campus heartthrob, Eya automatically hates him for being a typical rich kid with a bad personality while Cross hates her for... well, being ugly.

To make things worse, she became Cross' personal maid due to financial issues. Now she must take care of Cross despite his constant display of rudeness towards her.

Find out how Eya's meeting with Cross changed her life as you read her diary.

Written by HaveYouSeenThisGirl, *Diary ng Panget* is a romantic comedy novel which started as an online novel in Wattpad that reached over 12 million reads. From Wattpad, the novel was published by PSICOM as a 4-volume series from May to September 2013. As a treat for the fans, Viva films announced last Manila International Book Fair its acquisition to the title and a movie-adaptation to hit the cinemas this Valentine's day.

One can say that the plot is very simple and cliché as expected from a novel set in the Philippine background. However, there are many situations in the story that the readers can easily relate to no matter how predictable it may be.

# Diary ng Panget

HaveYouSeenThisGirl

Eya resembles a typical shoujo manga protagonist—poor and simple, but kindhearted. Most female readers around her age can sympathize with her since Eya represents a girl who has zero confidence in her appearance, yet she manages to make friends with people from the upper class. She is also the type that won't take insults without giving them a piece of her mind. On the other hand, Cross Sandford is the exact opposite of the story's heroine in terms of character traits.

Are you worried that there might be heavy drama, complicated plot twists and kontribida roles? No problem! Since *Diary ng Panget* is a teen fiction novel, it focuses on problems and situations most teenagers experience as well as the romantic development between the four main characters.

All in all, *Diary ng Panget* is a Filipino novel that is simple and light, yet entertaining at the same time. It's definitely a story worth reading.

# THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN 2

written by: Kei



Peter Parker enjoys swinging between skyscrapers and fight crime as a superhero while spending time with Gwen. However, being Spider-Man comes at a price: only he can protect the people of New York from the impending danger that threatens the city. With the help of his friend, Harry Osborn, Peter's investigation about his father's past led him to the connection both Electro and the Rhino have in common: OsCorp.

Our friendly neighborhood Spider-Man makes a comeback in the big screen as he faces not one, not two, but three of his greatest foes this summer!

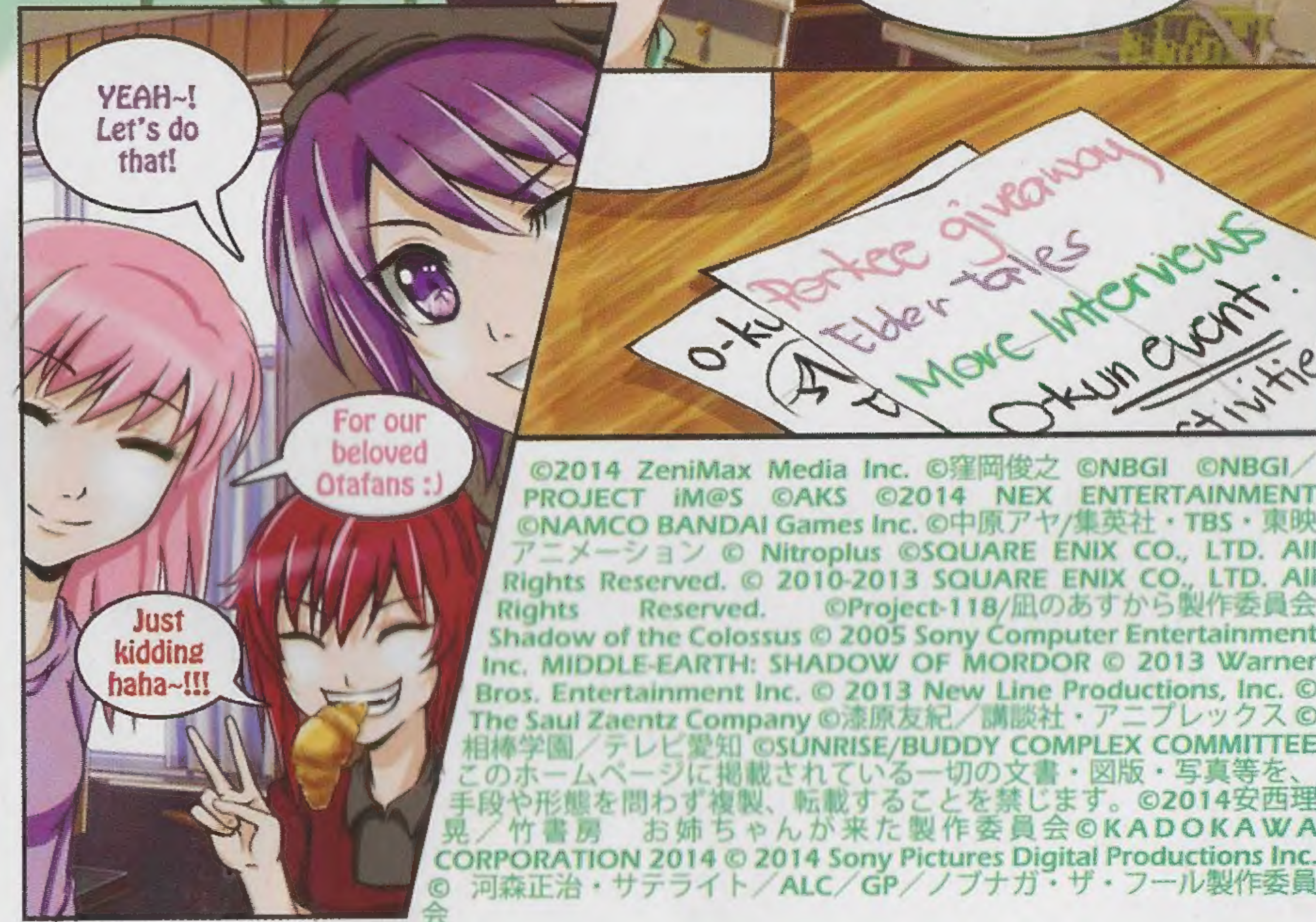
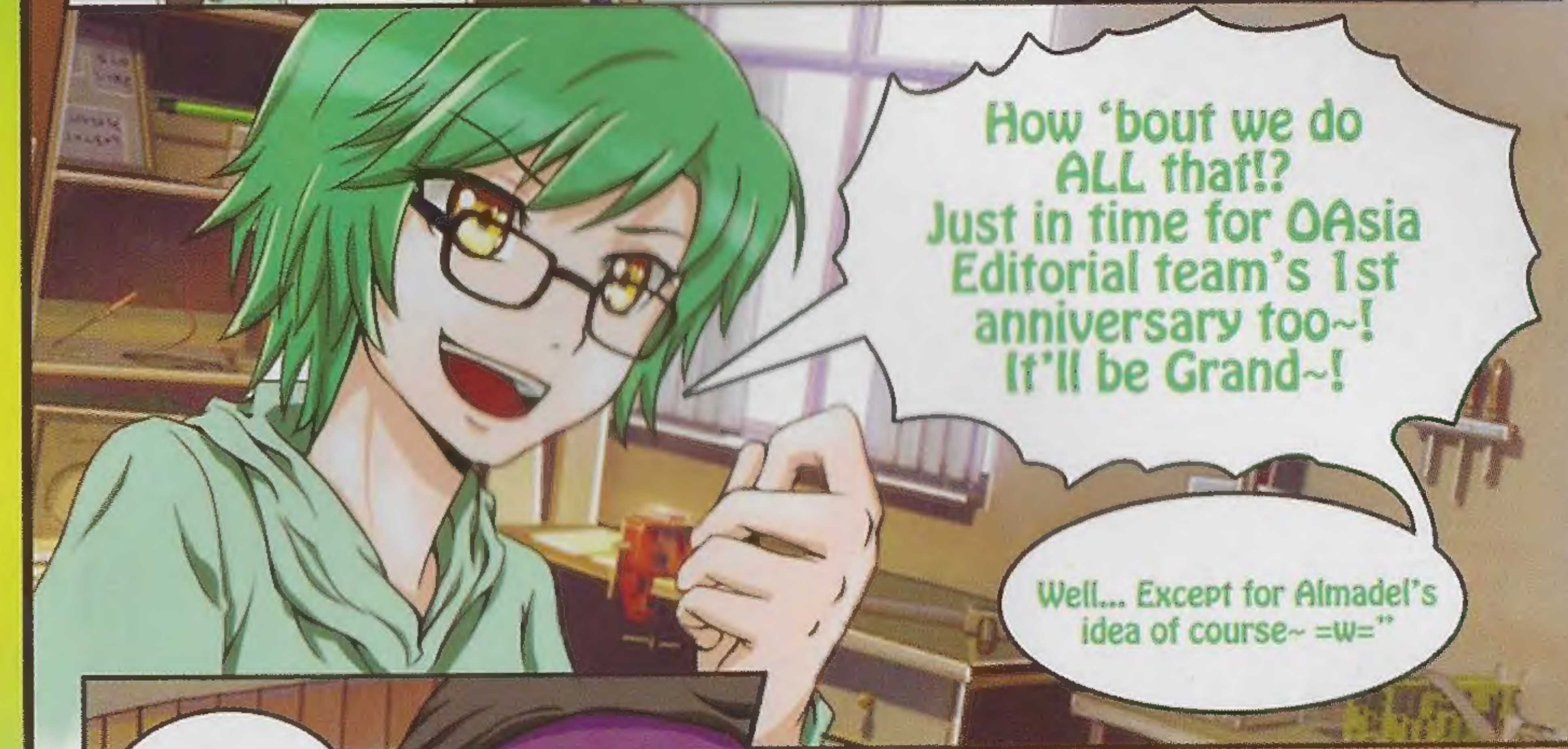
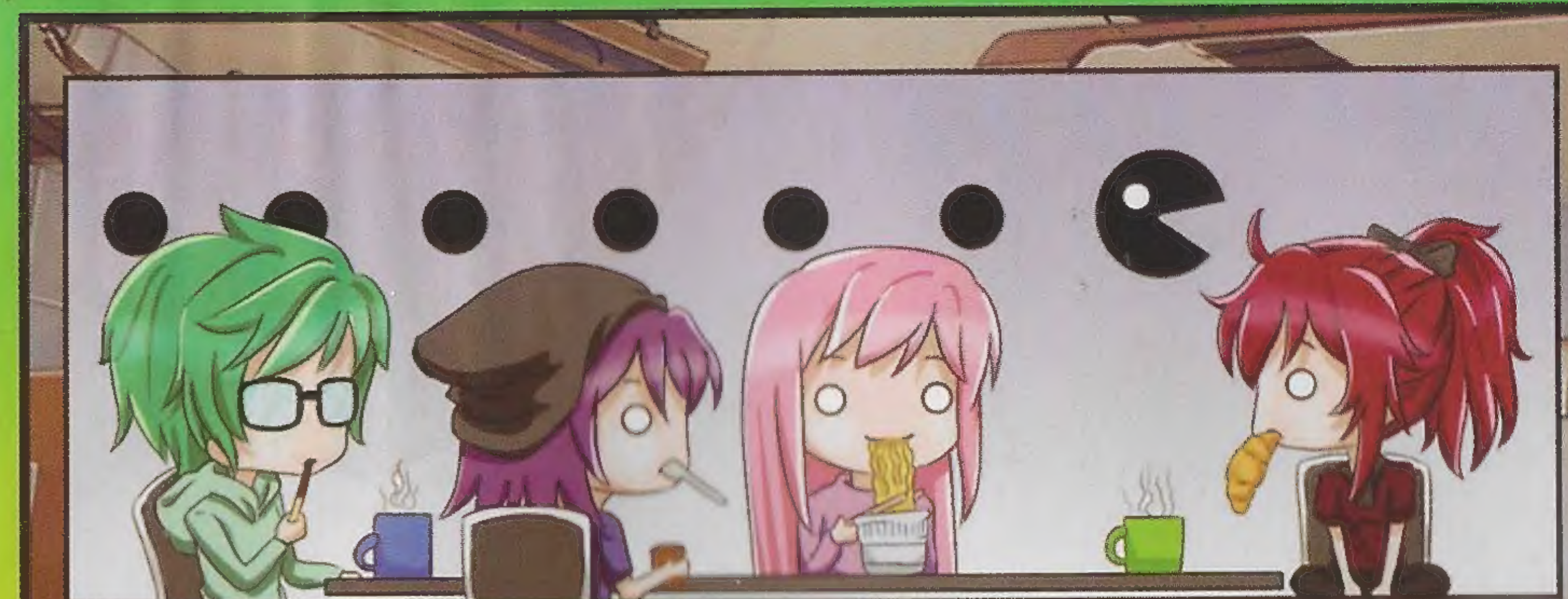
The *Amazing Spider-Man 2* is the second installment of the *Amazing Spider-Man* movie series that will premier on May 2, 2014 in 2D, 3D and IMAX 3D. Andrew Garfield once again stars in the film as Peter Parker/Spider-Man and Emma Stone as Gwen Stacy while Jamie Foxx, Dane DeHaan and Paul Giamatti joins the cast as Electro, Harry Osborn and the Rhino respectively. The film is directed by Marc Webb and released by Columbia Pictures.

From what the trailer showed in a span of two minutes, it looks like *The Amazing Spider-Man 2* is packed with intense battle scenes and stunning CG effects that will blow your mind. The original costume from the first film will be altered to give Spider-Man a different look. And last but not the least, he will be fighting against Electro, the Rhino and the Green Goblin at the same time as the three of them share a single connection related to Richard Parker.

Sony is giving hardcore Spider-Man fans a surprise by announcing that *The Amazing Spider-Man* will be having two more sequels on 2016 and 2018. There will also be two spinoff films featuring *Venom* and the *Sinister Six*.

Mark your calendars, folks! Spidey's greatest battle begins this summer.





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SPECIAL THANKS TO:  
COSMIC BYTES, YUMI S TAIYAKI, TUTTLE PUBLISHING, TIFFANY SY,  
LEAKING HEART AND DRANZER DICE





#throwback

## On Becoming a Butterfly

by Lizac

A dream makes us strive harder. Once we reach that point, there is no other way but to go forward.

For people like Yukari Hayasaka, dream is a complicated thing to even think about. Yukari is a high school girl who has no clear goals for herself and her personality is suffering because of this seemingly lack of direction in life. This long-haired young lady is a hater of the simplest unpredictability in life. She observes her surroundings, and later on makes a hasty generalization about it.

Her fate makes a huge turnaround, however, when one day she meets a group of Yazagaku Fashion School students looking for a model to represent their brand, Paradise Kiss. Naturally, being the irritable teenager that she is, she declines their offer without hearing the rest of the details from them. But the group won't let her go because they deem her perfect for the brand. They

# Paradisekiss



bring her to Atalier, a place where the fashion students meet after school and build their dreams. Before hurrying away, she accidentally drops her school I.D within Atalier's premises. George, the most prominent member of ParaKiss, lures her into retrieving her I.D. by going back to Atalier. She hears meaningful facts from Miwako about Atalier and Paradise Kiss. And from there, she starts realizing how significant this project is for the fashion buffs she just met.

The Paradise Kiss manga was written by Ai Yazawa, and was first published by Shodensha on 1999. It was later on animated by Madhouse Studio in 2005. A live action film was also produced in the year 2011. It has become a phenomenon particularly in the shoujo category, gaining followers not only from Japan but also from Western countries.

The art at first sight may not be appealing to some, but if this is what's stopping you from watching it, you are missing a lot from the world of anime. It is not your typical anime with "anime-face" features as the design for each character is highly detailed and realistic. Judging from the opening sequence, perhaps the main objective of this art style is to show primarily that the real and the fictional will be combined in this anime. It is a creative showcase of the animators' talent and their ability to conceptualize a sequence that would grab the audience's attention, and keep it until the end. It is all about fashion, after all. It's the colors, the symbols, and the queer that make this anime beautiful. The soundtrack that comes with Paradise Kiss is also amazing. The renowned Tommy February and international performer Franz Ferdinand singing the opening and ending themes; anyone would praise this soundtrack that is both chic and upbeat.

The flow of the story can be likened to a popular TV series, only that the actors and actresses are anime characters. The conversations between characters are level-headed and anyone could easily relate to what they are talking about. Paradise Kiss lets you explore each character in-depth, focusing both on their randomness and aspirations.

Paradise Kiss is an anime that has long ago basked into the limelight, but its inspirational theme continues on up to this generation. For anyone who has dreamed and yet to realize their dreams, this should be an addition to your "to-watch inspiring anime" list.

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# NISSIN

